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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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MARRIAGE.

On the 11th February, 1899, before H.B.M.'s Consul, and at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, ANDREW W. MATTLAND, to EMMA T. GOODFELLOW.

DEATHS.

At Kobe, on the 10th February, FREDERICK WILLIAM PULLEY, second engineer P. & O. steamer *Bombay*, aged 34 years.

At No. 4, Miller Road, Shanghai, on the 12th February, 1899, JOHN G. HAMLYN, aged 62 years.

At Kobe, on the 13th February, ANNIE, the wife of Capt. H. J. CARREW, aged 46 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The Canadian mail of the 31st January arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 22nd February (22 days); and the American mail of the 25th January arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *Nippon Maru*, on the 24th February (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Bank of China and Japan, Limited, has taken over the agency at Shanghai of the National Bank of China, Limited.

A Cotton Company about to be established at Haiphong is negotiating with the municipality for the acquisition of land for its factories.

Over ninety persons were fined at Bangkok, the other day, for not clothing themselves decently, in compliance with the new Dress Law. Great dissatisfaction is said to prevail among the people there.

The Japanese Government has decided to send the Japanese Minister to St. Petersburg, a Colonel from the Army, and a Captain from the Navy, to represent it at the Peace Conference proposed by the Czar.

Mr. Henry R. Williams, Jr., has resigned the post of American Vice-Consul at Canton to accept service in the China Corporation Company, London.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—H.M.S. *Woodlark*, sistership to the *Woodcock*, whose constituent parts came originally to Shanghai and were then sent back to Hongkong, is to come to Shanghai once more and to be put together here, probably at the Tongkadoo Dock, for up river service.

A new plot to dispose of Kang Yu-wei is reported to be under way. One of his former Canton friends, a man of wealth and influence, is, it is said, to be sent to Yokohama, where he is to invite Kang and the other members of the reform party now resident at that port to a banquet, where they are to be poisoned. As the plot has already been "blown upon" it is not likely to prove successful.

The *Shanghai Daily Press* of the 9th February says:—A portion of the members of the Peking Syndicate Expedition has already left for Hankow, consisting of Major Brazier Creagh, Capt. McSwiney, Mr. C. D. Jamieson, and Signor Poratesi and the rest will leave next week. The party will go overland from Hankow to Siang-yung, and from thence up along the line of the new proposed railway through upper Honan and Shansi.

The Consul for France informs us that he has received a Havas wire conveying the sad news that President Faure died of apoplexy on the 16th February. He was in his study at 6 p.m. when, feeling ill, he called his A.D.C., M. Le Gall, who attended to him and immediately called in medical assistance. Although everything which medical skill could devise was done for him President Faure became unconscious at 8 p.m. and died at 10 p.m.

Lately there has been reason to suspect that France meditates the seizure of St. John's Island on the West Coast. On this account the Customs' cruiser *Lung Tsing* was a short while ago sent down to Kwanchauwan and adjoining coast from Lappa, to make enquiries as to what was being done there by the French. The *Lung Tsing* has returned from this expedition and is now getting an overhaul at the Kowloon Docks before returning to her duties at Lappa.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) learn the Russian troops numbering about 14,000 at Port Arthur are enjoying excellent health. There were some ninety deaths from typhoid owing to the unsanitary condition of the Chinese town, but the officials took the matter in hand and have thoroughly cleaned the affected districts. The one drawback now is the lack of suitable accommodation, the Chinese dwellings being most inadequate owing to the inclemency of the weather.

In a note in the Journal of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society referring to the bilingual Jubilee proclamation issued in honour of the Empress Regent of China Mr. M. F. A. Fraser speaks of the Chinese as "a baby nation which never grows older or wiser." The policy proclaimed is, he says, "to follow the example set in the arts of Government by the King of Chow, a chief who is said to have flourished in 1122 B.C., or, worse still, of him of Poh, B.C. 1766, not to go still further back, to which the advisers of the son of Heaven have no objection."

The *N. C. Daily News* publishes the following special telegram dated Chungking, 11th February:—Mr. Litton, H.M. Consul, has returned from Kueiyang. It is rumoured that he has reported to Peking strongly condemning the conduct of the Governor of Kueichow, to whose hostility the murder of Mr. Fleming was due. He took no steps to do justice except under compulsion. It is hoped that Sir Claude MacDonald will take action in the matter of the Governor's conduct.

A correspondent writes:—Viceroys Chang Chi-tung and Liu Kung-yi have both been ordered to Peking to be consulted on affairs of state. It is unlikely that either will obey the summons, as it is fairly well recognized that their presence in Peking would be only a preliminary to their impeachment on some trumped up charge and they would be lucky if it was only a case of removal from office and not a making of them a head shorter. Manchus will be appointed in their stead if they can be safely removed. It is not unlikely that these changes are prompted by some foreign powers.

The Chungking correspondent of the *China Gazette* writes under date of the 26th January:—Mr. Archibald Colquhoun, who is here at present, delivered a lecture last evening on his journey from Moscow across Siberia to China and gave an interesting picture of the situation in China to a large gathering of the Chungking foreign community. The lecturer, who was introduced by Mr. James Murray, requested that his lecture be not reported in full. At the close the American Consul moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was heartily responded to. Mr. Colquhoun hopes to leave on a few days for Kueiyangfu, Yunnanfu, Kunlong ferry, and Mandalay.

Sensational news has been received from Manila during the past week. On the 23rd February fires, the work of incendiaries, broke out in various parts of the town, and much damage was done. An attempted native rising was put down by the Americans and it is stated in the telegram of our correspondent that the natives retreated towards Calococan. This place was recently captured by the Americans, but its mention in this connection would seem to show that it has since been abandoned by them and re-occupied by the Insurgents. Written advices state that the Americans were drawing in their lines. It is becoming increasingly evident that a very large army will be necessary for the conquest of the country. A British subject named Curtis has been killed and another named Simpson wounded.

At 4.10 p.m. on the 11th February a fire broke out at the residence of Mr. Andraif, second Secretary of the Russian Legation in Tokyo, at No. 3 Aoye-cho, Akasaka, Tokyo. An entertainment was going on within at the time, about fifty guests being assembled. Dancing was in progress, when suddenly smoke was seen to burst from the adjoining room. The outbreak is attributed to a stove. The Portuguese Legation next door was at one time in considerable danger, the wind carrying the flames in that direction. The firemen, however, succeeded in confining the fire to the two buildings on the lot where it originated. As the U.S. Legation as well as Prince Komatsu's mansion are in the immediate neighbourhood, there was great excitement when the fire was at its height. A detachment of troops of the Imperial Bodyguard was sent to assist at the Prince's mansion.

EUROPEAN RESIDENCE IN THE TROPICS.

(Daily Press, 24th February.)

The acclimatization of Europeans in tropical countries was the subject of a paper recently read by Dr. L. SAMBON before the Royal Geographical Society and published in the Society's Journal. Dr. SAMBON maintains that there is no reason why the European as a coloniser should not conquer the tropical world and that tropical heat is not deadly or the cause of special diseases. Anæmia, hepatitis, and sunstroke, formerly attributed to solar heat, are now shown to be due to parasitism. The two former exist in temperate as well as tropical climates, while as to sunstroke, Dr. SAMBON tells us that it is infectious, that it often prevails in epidemic form and is confused with a number of other quite different diseases, but that its restricted and peculiar distribution geographically shows that it is not induced by heat, but, like yellow fever, is limited to a few coast districts and the valleys of great rivers. Heat, Dr. SAMBON tells us, is not the enemy of the European in colonising the tropics; his struggle is with living organisms, from man and beasts to protozoa and bacteria, and the lower the form of life the longer and fiercer the struggle. One of the most surprising statements in the paper, however, is that European children in the tropics with proper management thrive as well as at home.

We have not the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society before us, and in the summary from which we quote important qualifications may have been omitted, but we are told that in the discussion that ensued Dr. MANSON expressed his entire assent to Dr. SAMBON's main thesis. We find some difficulty in crediting that, for Dr. MANSON, when practising in Hongkong, never hesitated to express his belief in the influence of climate upon health. "You're 'only an exotic here,'" he would say to his patients, and that, as it seems to us, precisely describes the situation. With the exercise of care the European in the tropics may live possibly as healthily as he lives in his own climate without special care, though even that we should doubt, the experience of Europeans in Hongkong being, we think, that they are generally a point or two below par and that tone is speedily regained on a visit home. The idea of Europeans ever being able to support in this climate the sustained physical exertion of the working classes in Europe appears to us quite untenable. Dr. SAMBON gives instances in which such exertion is alleged to be supported in tropical climates elsewhere, but the instances do not appear to justify the sweeping generalisation. We are told that agricultural labour is carried on by white men in Central and South America, Australia, and Africa. But in Central and South America the white race, if we are not mistaken, has a tendency to assimilate to the native type. Australia has a climate of its own, but even there it is found necessary in the tropical regions to import native labour from the islands; and in Africa also it is very little agricultural labour that is carried on by white men in the tropical regions. Mention is likewise made of the Dutch in Java as an instance of people from a temperate climate having migrated to the tropics and flourished; but they flourish as exotics and not as natives. That European children can thrive in the tropics, even in the plains of Bengal, is, it is said, shown by Sir JOSEPH FAYRE from the experience of the Lawrence Orphanage.

But we need not go so far afield, for we have instances in our own colony of European children growing up into healthy men and women. Such instances do not prove, however, that white men are adapted for severe physical work in the tropics, or that if we had a white labouring class unable to devote more care to the rearing of their children than the labouring class at home the children would be as healthy as the home reared children.

Science, however, can do much to modify the dangers of life in the tropics, as well for the native as for the white man. This was shown by Dr. MANSON by reference to the connection between the water supply and elephantiasis. Mosquitoes infect water with the germs of the disease, and to prevent it we have but to keep the mosquitoes down, to prevent their preying on already infected individuals, or, and this is the simple plan, to keep them from getting access to our drinking water, or by boiling or filtration to kill the germs which our drinking water may contain. When Hongkong was dependent upon wells, many of them polluted, for its water supply, no doubt cases of elephantiasis might be contracted by the natives, who were less careful than Europeans as to the source of their supply and—as to boiling or filtration, but with our present water supply we should think the danger of the disease being contracted locally must have been reduced to a minimum. "No 'one now,'" Dr. MANSON says, "need suffer 'from elephantiasis,'" and it is suggested that as soon as the malarial parasite is as well understood as this, that scourge, too, will be abated. It is believed that mosquitoes and similar insects in some way act as a medium in the propagation of malaria, and an investigation is now in progress for the purpose of collecting information bearing upon that problem. In connection with that investigation the co-operation of amateurs in the collection of mosquitoes has been invited; particulars as to the conditions that should be observed were recently published in the *Government Gazette*, and to them we would invite the attention of such of our readers as may be interested in the study of insect life. "The true 'obstacles to colonisation,'" says Dr. SAMBON, "are the multitudinous living mites 'which teem in the tropics like every 'other form of life. Against these nature 'can only give us fair play; they are her 'creatures as much as we are. But we 'worship science and that goddess will 'surely lead us to victory.'" Science will no doubt lead us to victory to the extent of rendering life in the tropics relatively more supportable by Europeans than it is now, but solar heat coupled with extremes of moisture and dryness of the atmosphere will always, we believe, preclude the settlement of a European labouring class in the tropics.

In the amelioration of the conditions of life in the tropics science can assist us not only by discovering disease germs and preventing their propagation, but also by various mechanical devices. Cold storage (by improving the quality of our diet), electric fans, and so forth may go a long way towards mitigating the deteriorating effects of a tropical climate upon the European constitution. If we cannot all sit under our own vine and fig tree the time may perhaps come when we may all be able to sleep under our own punkah without having to have a coolie to pull it. This is not the time of year when punkahs are much thought of, but in two or three months more, when we are experiencing the enervating effects of the south-west monsoon

residents in Hongkong will probably have a keener perception not only of the improbability of a European labouring class being able to support the climate, but also of the desirability of counteracting the effects of the heat by all means that science may place at our disposal.

THE COBDEN CLUB AND THE OPEN DOOR.

(Daily Press, 20th February)

The manifesto issued by the Cobden Club with reference to the preservation of trading rights in undeveloped territories acquired or to be acquired by the various European Powers is a timely pronouncement particularly apposite to the position in China. "It will be our duty," says the manifesto, "to maintain valuable trade 'rights already acquired in territories 'which other Powers may annex, and we 'freely recognise the necessity of being 'prepared to do this. But if this 'country will honestly stand before the 'world and say, and by a consistent 'course of conduct prove, that its 'interest in any derelict country, or 'in any country, unappropriated by a 'civilised power, in which other people 'also are interested, is purely commercial, 'we believe that it can gradually draw 'to itself sufficiently strong moral and 'material support from the rest of the 'world to secure the peaceful realisation of 'its object." It is suggested that England should say to other Powers, with respect to their claim to impose hostile tariffs, "Drop 'this claim, and we shall view your ex- 'pansion not only without alarm or sus- 'picion, but with sympathy and goodwill." In the leases of territory recently granted to foreign Powers in China stipulations are incorporated to the effect that at the leased ports no differential tariffs are to be imposed, and it may be assumed that this proviso was inserted under British influence either with or without the support of other Powers. That seems to us the correct line of policy for Great Britain to pursue, to insist on equality of trading rights, but not to interfere with the territorial expansion of other Powers so long as such expansion does not trench on territory that she may have earmarked as her own. Russian activity in Manchuria is regarded by many as the closing of an open door, but those who take that view appear to be influenced more by their combativeness than their reason. The only result so far has been to largely increase the volume of trade, and the increase will continue. This result might be looked for even in spite of any moderate preferential tariff that Russia might at some future time feel inclined to impose, but Great Britain is strong enough to make it a condition that no such tariff shall be imposed, and in enforcing that condition she would probably have the support, as the Cobden Club suggests, of other Powers. In relation to China the term "open door" is entirely inapplicable; the door has never been opened more than a very little way and traders of all nationalities have complained constantly of the obstructions placed in their way. Any expansion of foreign Powers at the cost of China means forcing the door a little wider open, and with an equal tariff guaranteed, Russian expansion in Manchuria is a thing to be welcomed rather than opposed.

At Shanghai on the 10th February the mate of the sailing vessel *Osaka*, whilst returning to the ship in a sampan, missed his footing in attempting to scramble up the gangway and fell into the river. The deceased, named Roverade, aged 35, was not seen again.

THE CHINESE RACE AND THE APPROACHING COLLAPSE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

(Daily Press, 23rd February.)

In his remarks upon Mr. GRANVILLE SHARP's lecture delivered at the City Hall on Monday afternoon Colonel EVATT said he did not agree with the lecturer's pessimistic views about China; the fact that she existed at all was a sign that she could not be so worthless as some people would have them believe; she still governed an enormous part of the world; her provinces were still keeping together; she had seen every Power that existed in this world rise; there was not a Power which existed but was of mushroom growth beside her; he had not the slightest fear himself for China's future. But was not the Colonel confusing the Chinese race with its political organisation? Mr. SHARP in the course of his lecture had paid a high tribute to the many excellencies of the Chinese race, his deprecatory references being directed solely against the Government. The latter is doomed, but no one can doubt that the Chinese as a race will always continue to play a prominent part in the world. The extreme measures adopted in America and Australia to prevent Chinese immigration indicate the estimation in which the danger of Chinese competition is held in those countries, and in Oriental countries where no restrictions are placed upon them Chinese take the most prominent position in trade and industry. But while the Chinese race is sound enough in its units, collectively it appears to have lost the art of government and to be incapable of resisting political aggression. The Rev. J. MACGOWAN, in his "History of China," referring to the fall of the last dynasty, says:—"Thus amidst bloodshed and disorder the Ming power vanished before its conqueror. It at first owed its rise to the same unhappy forces that finally caused it to disappear. We have no pity for the family that has just fallen. It had never proved by its purity or statesmanship that it had a divine commission to rule the empire. As the years went by it showed by its reckless and lavish expenditure of the revenues of the country, and by the licentious habits that turned the palace into a pandemonium, that it was unfitted for its high position. It fell, as other dynasties did before it, because of the inherent want of moral qualities, without which no power will ever be long tolerated by a people like the Chinese, who demand so high an ideal in their sovereign." History repeats itself, and the Tsing dynasty, like the Ming, is tottering to its fall by reason of its inherent want of moral qualities. It was saved by England at the time of the Taiping rebellion, and the subsequent course of events has proved how little it was worth the saving. It exists now solely by reason of the mutual jealousy of the foreign Powers. Whether the young Emperor in the absence of interference by the Empress Dowager, might have succeeded in purifying and strengthening the rule of his house can now be only a matter of conjecture, but as he has no issue and receives no support from the Imperial clan his prospects of success could not be considered very bright. Even had he effected the revolution in the administration which his decrees portended the probability is that the rule of his house would have come to an end with his own life. In connection with Colonel EVATT's remark that all other Powers are of mushroom growth beside China the fact may also be recalled that

since the date of the Norman conquest, since when no foreign yoke has been imposed upon England, China has twice had to accept foreign dynasties who established themselves by conquest.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

(Daily Press 20th February.)

The meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on Saturday passed off, as was to be expected in face of the splendid results shown in the report, most satisfactorily. While the directors and the staff generally well deserve the vote of thanks accorded to them, it is to Mr. THOMAS JACKSON, the Chief Manager, that the Bank chiefly owes its present magnificent position, and the announcement that Mr. JACKSON had consented to continue in his present responsible post for a further term of years naturally afforded the shareholders much gratification. The announcement that it was intended to continue the sound policy of adding to the reserve fund—which now stands at \$10,000,000, the amount of the capital, and at a much larger amount if regard be had to the writing down that has been done—was also received with satisfaction. Indeed the whole of the Chairman's speech, in so far as it dealt exclusively with the affairs of the Bank, calls only for congratulation and affords no room for adverse criticism. Nor in Mr. BELL-IRVING's remarks on the political situation was there much to take exception to, except perhaps that they did not go quite far enough. He expressed the opinion that China will find herself forced more and more to allow foreign capital and enterprise to undertake the task of developing the great natural resources of the empire. He might have added that she will find herself forced more and more either to submit to foreign control in the administration of the empire or to avail herself very largely of foreign assistance. The indications are that she will not willingly avail herself of the latter alternative and that some measure of foreign control will have to be forced upon her. Whether that control shall be exercised by different Powers in different spheres or conjointly at Peking the future must be left to determine; in either case there will be a good deal of disturbance in the political atmosphere. Mr. BELL-IRVING is of opinion that "the disturbance set up in the political atmosphere by the events of which the Far East during the last eighteen months has been the theatre shows signs of subsiding," an opinion which may be well founded, but as in the summer the typhoon warnings from Manila follow each other in quick succession, so the subsidence of one disturbance in the political atmosphere of China is no guarantee that there is not another already brewing.

SUPREME COURT,

18th February.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

THE KOWLOON POISONING CASE.

Tong Tin, a cook in the employ of Mrs. Wagner, of Kowloon, was charged with administering a noxious drug—*Datura alba*—to five servants at Kowloon on the 10th January. There were 15 counts in the indictment. Prisoner pleaded not guilty to each of them.

The jury was composed as follows:—Messrs. W. C. Wilcox (foreman), Shi Yu Mau, R. S.

Philpott, J. A. Gutierrez, J. D. H. S. dos Remedios, F. J. V. Jorge, and C. L. Gorham.

The Hon. H. E. Pollock, Acting Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. H. L. Denny, Crown Solicitor), appeared for the prosecution. He said prisoner in this case was charged with an offence under section 22 of Ordinance 4 of 1865, which read as follows:—"Whoever shall unlawfully and maliciously administer to or cause to be administered to or taken by any other person any poison or other destructive or noxious thing, with intent to injure or aggrieve or annoy such person, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour." Prisoner was a cook in the employ of Mrs. Wagner, who lived at Beryl, in Kowloon. He thought he was first employed as cook by Mrs. Wagner on the 1st of January of this year. It seemed that it was the custom of Lo Fung, gardener for Mr. Holmes, who lived next door to Mrs. Wagner, to go into the next house to have his meals. Lo Fung would tell the jury that on the 10th of January last, about half-past seven in the morning, he was cooking vegetables in the coolie kitchen in Mrs. Wagner's house, when prisoner came up to him with a jar containing lard in his hand. Prisoner poured this lard into the pan in which Lo Fung was cooking the vegetables, saying at the same time "I give you this for you to cook your vegetables." Prisoner then took the jar away, but before doing so Lo Fung offered to wash it for him. Prisoner, however, said he did not want that. Shortly afterwards Lo Fung and five others sat down to their meal. After eating their meal five of them who had eaten the vegetables became giddy and subsequently entirely unconscious. They remained unconscious for some considerable time—for some hours, because when they recovered consciousness they were in the Government Civil Hospital, where they remained until the next day. Two of them were rather badly stupefied. Mr. Browne, Government Analyst, would tell the jury that in his opinion the drug which was administered and the remains of which were found in the jar was *Datura alba*, which he said had the effect of making a man giddy and subsequently unconscious. With regard to the motive, it appeared that prisoner had a grudge against Mrs. Wagner's house-boy through the dismissal of a relative of his from Mrs. Wagner's employ.

Evidence having been given prisoner was unanimously found guilty on all the 15 counts, and was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment with hard labour on each count, the sentences running concurrently.

17th February.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

CHEONG YAU TO AND OTHERS V. CHOY CHAN.

In this suit, in which judgment had been reserved, his lordship granted a mandatory injunction for the future protection of the plaintiffs, the defendant to reduce the cook-house to the level or height of the cook-house on the 9th October, 1890, the injunction to refer to the strip of land only. He granted nominal damages to the plaintiffs in the sum of \$50, which amount had been paid into Court by the defendant. The plaintiffs were allowed the costs of the suit. His Lordship ordered the injunction to be suspended for one month from the date of judgment to enable the parties to come to some agreement, execution for costs not to issue for one month, pending appeal.

At Bangkok, in October last, a man named de Silva was convicted of the abduction of a girl named O'Donoghue and sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. The case, which had naturally excited much interest at Bangkok, was taken on appeal to the Supreme Court at Singapore, which has decided that the prisoner should not under the circumstances have been convicted. Mr. de Silva was accordingly brought before the Consular Court at Bangkok on the 11th February and informed that he was free.

THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

FIGHTING CONTINUES.

AMERICAN GAINS IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT].

Manila, 10th February.

Manila echoes with the crack of rifles and the boom of artillery day and night. Since the trouble began last Saturday night there have been constant skirmishes and many sharp engagements in which both sides have suffered heavily. The list of dead and wounded grows every day until it now reaches on the American side seventy killed and one hundred and seventy wounded. The insurgent loss is difficult to ascertain and estimates can be formed only on the dead and wounded left on the field. It is the custom of the natives to carry off their comrades even though hard pressed, and rifles and ammunition are hardly ever left behind. Estimates run as high as 2,000, but probably 800 will cover all loss to the insurgents. It is a peculiar thing that the Americans have lost almost in the proportion of one killed to every two wounded.

On Sunday, Paco and Santa Ana, lying to the south-east of Manila, were the scenes of the most hotly contested battles of the line with the exception of Malate. After being driven out of the burning towns the natives took to the rice fields, and every ridge of the broken ground served as a trench. The men were forced to lay flat on their stomachs, with heads only above to sight the guns. For hundreds of yards in all directions the country appeared as flat as a billiard table and over this unprotected district the Americans advanced by short rushes, dropping down to fire and running forward fifteen or twenty yards to fall again. In an hour and a half the natives were driven back to the woods and river, but not without leaving many a bare footed native and blue coated American to mark the path of the fight. The convent of the Catholic nuns was used as a hospital for the wounded at this point and the good sisters did noble work for Filipinos and American impartially. The American hospital corps were instructed to do all possible for wounded natives, and, be it said to their great credit, the instructions were carried out to the letter in spite of the strong feeling that necessarily exists.

At Santa Ana a desperate resistance was encountered and in one small earthwork thirty-eight bodies were found when the Americans charged over it. The city suffered from numerous fires in addition to the artillery destruction. Two modern Krupp guns about 3 in. calibre were captured with quantities of ammunition.

The heaviest loss was sustained by the 14th U.S. Infantry, which fought over the entrenchments beyond Malate. One company alone came back with twelve killed, including Lieut. Mitchell. At Malate the insurgents had possession of the old Spanish trenches and from these they extended the work in all directions so that flanking was almost an impossibility. Under every house trenches had been dug and shots came from all quarters; even the trees held sharpshooters, who were in many cases knocked down like squirrels. In this direction they still hold a position three miles below the fort and within half-a-mile of General Overhine's head quarters.

THE CAPTURE OF THE WATERWORKS.

The capture of the waterworks was one of the most easily accomplished attacks and at the same time one of the most spectacular. The expedition under General Hale went out on Monday afternoon and included four guns of the Utah light battery, four companies of the 1st Nebraska, and two companies of the 1st Colorado Volunteers. A long line of infantry skirmishers was thrown out with the artillery in the centre. The country was raked over as with a fine tooth comb, the artillery shelling with shrapnel and infantry following up closely. At only one place, on a hill about half way out, was sharp resistance offered. A party of natives got into the brush on the immediate left wing and kept the bullets flying in among our men until a company of Nebraska men was sent off

to the extreme left, closing in gradually to the right until the natives squeezed out and rushed for another cover. The Americans lost one man killed and three wounded. Surgeon Young of the Utah Battery rode out on the flank and must have been cut off and captured. His body was found later in the day with a bullet wound in the chest and another in the head. Around the latter wound there were powder stains showing the weapon had been held close to him. He probably made a brave stand, for fifteen empty cartridges from his revolver were found scattered near the body. On reaching the top of the hill overlooking the waterworks four shots were tried at the town of Marikinan across the river. The range was 5,000 yards, but the projectiles fell among the houses and scattered the people in all directions. The buildings of the waterworks were found deserted and the machinery damaged to the extent of missing cylinder heads and valves. These have since been found hidden in coal heaps and the works are running.

At the north of the city the Marines with machine guns, Kansas, 3rd U.S. Artillery, and Montana men have been busy at the country this side of Caloocan. At this point insurgents are strongly entrenched and a heavy fight is expected. About fifty men have been wounded in this district already and very little advance has been made.

During the first three days of the fighting the Americans burned all villages, houses, brush, and so on that they passed through, thus clearing the country and at the same time indicating the advance of the troops. Hundreds of families are homeless but every shock was a menace and with but few exceptions the natives were hostile.

Yesterday was a period of rest, eagerly embraced by the soldiers, who have been constantly about since Saturday.

The lines to-day have been extended, on an average, in all directions from Manila about four miles. Paranaque, which has generally been reported as taken by the Americans, is still in the hands of the natives and strongly entrenched.

A general advance is expected to-morrow but owing to the length of the lines, some 22 miles, and the necessary shallowness of the supports, new tactics will be adopted and columns something in the nature of spokes of a wheel emanating from the hub (the walled-city) will be thrown out.

MARCH TO MALOLOS BEGUN.

AGUINALDO HARANGUES FILIPINOS AT POLO.

Manila, 13th February.

On Friday afternoon, after a day's rest, the troops of General Harrison G. Otis's Brigade attacked and captured the town of Caloocan, the first place of importance north of Manila on the line of the railroad. At five minutes past three the *Monadnock* opened fire from the bay and a few minutes later the Utah battery of 3.2 in. rifles began shelling the trenches and town with shrapnel. The range was about 3,000 yards, and at this distance the explosives were placed with splendid accuracy. Many times as a shot burst in the fringe of the woods or along the cemetery walls, the natives could be seen, with the naked eye, rushing off in all directions to escape the terrific artillery fire, and after the battle was over and the searching parties were raking over the fields a large number of the dead bore unmistakable signs of shell wounds. The advance of the infantry was checked until doubtful places were shelled and then the riflemen were ordered forward. From this time on it assumed the nature of one long overwhelming charge, for the men ran at top speed nearly all the way, only stopping for occasional shots when close range was obtained. Just 65 minutes after the Infantry was let loose the American flag was flying from the only visible staff in the place, one that has long borne the English banner in front of the residence of Mr. Higgins, the manager of the railroad.

Without the artillery the taking of Caloocan would have been a most serious problem, for the Filipinos were strongly entrenched and they held their positions with a pertinacity that calls forth exclamations of wonder from old Spanish

soldiers, who really ought to know something about it.

Early in the fight some men of the Kansas Regiment who occupied the extreme left of the line crept forward in the bushes and set fire to several nipa huts and as the natives retired they also followed example and burned their dwellings behind them. In a short time the whole place was a mass of flames stretching away off into the woods, where the bamboos were bursting and cracking like a hundred Maxim guns.

General Otis and his staff were on the fighting line from start to finish and on reaching the town they immediately took up quarters in the church. The signal service men rushed the wires along with their fighting comrades and they were in the railroad station and under the direction of Captain Russel had established communication with General McArthur's head quarters at Binondo Church almost before the instruments had cooled from the hand of the native operator ticking off the last message to Malolos.

The Infantry, composed of the Kansas, Montana, 3rd U. S. Artillery (acting as infantry), and Idaho in reserve, pursued the flying Filipinos into the jungle beyond the town and over in the direction of Malabon.

When the natives saw that the fight was going against them they loaded a converted smooth bore gun (given them months ago by the Americans at Cavite) on to a flat car and dispatched it up the road along with several passenger coaches carrying women, children, and baggage.

Then the sun sank down, a great ball of red in a smokey streaked sky. General Otis and others were gathered in the telegraph office sending back messages to headquarters, and from far up the road came the lusty cheers of hundreds of soldiers gathered about the pole saluting the one waving flag.

The American loss was eight killed and 34 wounded. The Filipino losses have been greatly exaggerated, but probably amount to 80 killed and 230 wounded. Many of the natives were buried in their houses.

The next day the natives returned in small detachments of sharpshooters and worried the outposts until two companies of the Kansas men were sent down to clear them out of the brush, which was finally done with the aid of a few shells. The heat during the greater part of the day was most oppressive and many of the boys suffered from sunstroke. Fifteen were carried in from one company and two became so violent they were bound with ropes to prevent them injuring themselves. The natives must have become aware that the men were weakening for they opened a heavy fire about midday, in which a number of Americans were wounded. Altogether 42 men were disabled for work by wounds during the day and nothing gained.

Malabon lies just across the lagoon from Caloocan and can easily be taken, as the ships are in close range. It is believed that the natives know this and will not put up a heavy fight. It is understood that the inhabitants have been served with a notice to surrender or stand a bombardment.

At all the other points of the line except below Malate, near Pasay, the utmost quiet has reigned. Saturday afternoon a slight engagement took place, some men of the 14th Infantry and 4th Cavalry running across a body of natives. It did not last more than a few minutes before the natives retired. An outpost of five was caught off its guard and brought in prisoners by a scouting party of 4th Cavalrymen.

Every one is waiting to see what the next move will be. As I have explained before, the lines cannot be extended more, as they are now too thin to be really safe. The 51st Iowa Regiment with the 1st California heavy artillery is marching around from Cavite to meet General Overhine's Brigade at some point near Paranaque and the natives are gradually being hemmed in between the two columns; but the move cannot be completed for three days at least.

Headquarters and those who know are as mumm as oysters and everyone waits and speculates, while next to the Governor-General the press censor reigns supreme.

ILOILO BOMBARDED.

ENGLISH, AMERICAN, AND GERMAN
CONSULATES BURNED.

NO AMERICAN LOSSES.

Manila, 14th February.

News of the taking of Iloilo arrived by the gunboat *Petrel* this morning. When the Tennessee Regiment was ordered south last Thursday it was believed that operations would not be long delayed. After keeping 1,200 soldiers in the harbour for six weeks and 2,300 for at least four weeks of the time, beside two workshops, the place was finally occupied. Since the 19th January the rebel government of the district of Bisayas has existed on a civil basis, thus subordinating the military, and there is no doubt that they were not as well prepared to resist an attack when the climax came as they were a month previous.

Notice was sent to President Melliza at Jaro, the headquarters, ordering the evacuation of Iloilo by Saturday evening, and any attempt at further entrenching or fortifying was forbidden. On Saturday morning about nine o'clock the natives were observed throwing up sandbag works and the cruiser *Boston* sent in a few shells, putting a stop to it. The natives replied by opening fire with one gun from the old Spanish fort on the point, which was quickly silenced by the *Boston* and *Petrel*. In short order the garrison was driven out of the fort and a small auxiliary gunboat, the *Samar*, carrying two machine guns, went up the river and drove the natives back into the city, from which they fled across the bridge into Jaro and out to Molo, where there are many strong earthworks.

A landing was made by Lieut. Nieblack, of the *Boston*, with 48 marines, who hoisted Old Glory over the fort and Governor's palace shortly after, and the 11th U.S. Infantry and 1st Tennessee Volunteer Regiments with Battery G. of the 6th Light Artillery were sent into the city, immediately assuming guard over the banks and public property. The Filipinos had time to set fire to the American, English, and German Consulates, a godown, and two other houses, and all these buildings have been destroyed. The timely arrival of the troops prevented further damage, as it was the avowed intention of the natives to burn the town if forced to retire.

General Miller and staff have taken up quarters at the local palace.

Though a long time coming, now that the question is well on toward settlement the foreign community is considerably relieved at the turn of events. Opinion, however, is divided, many contending that as the natives have been antagonized beyond recall business will suffer most severely.

The natives have apparently retired to Jaro and Molo only to make another stand. It is likely that by this time both these towns are cleared out, but beyond these General Miller is not expected to advance, as it is not deemed necessary to carry the war into the interior at present.

NO ADVANCE AT MANILA UNTIL
REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE.

Since the taking of Caloocan there has been comparative quiet all along the twenty-five miles of fighting lines about Manila. On Sunday there was a brush with the Malabon garrison, in which the Kansas troops suffered more from sunstroke than bullets, and to-day the California and Idaho Volunteers with two guns of the 6th Artillery skirmished for an hour over the country near San Pedro Macati, south of Manila. At the latter place a large body of insurgents has been almost surrounded and every attempt to get out meets with leaden objections from the American outposts.

It is safe to predict no extensive engagement will be undertaken before the arrival of reinforcements from America, which are expected here during the next two weeks. In many places the great length of the firing line has left weak points, which would be quite vulnerable to a fair sized body of determined natives.

White flags of every conceivable size, description, and fabric flutter from every native house that is left standing. Even the canoes coming down the river with grass and small supplies have patches of white tied to bamboo sticks.

The number of prisoners taken about the city and in battle amounts to over eight hundred.

They are confined in the walled city and form a motley multitude ranging from the common cart driver to Aguinaldo's private secretary.

A heavy guard patrols the city of Manila, and beyond occasional shots fired at suspicious characters or those refusing to obey the sentries' commands perfect order exists. During the first few nights of the trouble the natives living in the low districts displayed a tendency to pick off the soldiers at night, firing from the roofs of houses, but a few well directed raids resulting in disaster to the offenders put an effectual stop to such troubles.

NEGROS DESIRES AMERICAN
PROTECTION.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

Manila, 22nd January.

The natives hoisted the American flag on the island of Negros on Saturday and express their desire for an American protectorate unreservedly. They have no connection with Aguinaldo. Four commissioners are visiting General Otis.

Sharpshooting continues at Manila and Jaro. The *Bennington* has arrived.

[The *Bennington* is a cruiser of 1,710 tons displacement, 3,436 indicated horse-power, launched in 1890, and carrying an armament of 6 six in., two 6 pr. quick fire, two 3 pr., one 1 pr., and four machine guns.]

EXTENSIVE INCENDIARISM AT
MANILA.ATTEMPTED NATIVE RISING.
A BRITISH SUBJECT KILLED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

Manila, 23rd February, 8 p.m.

Extensive fires, the work of incendiaries, have taken place at Santa Cruz, Tondo, Binondo, and Manila.

An attempted native rising has been quelled. The natives retreated towards Caloocan, between double American lines. The Americans are clearing the disorderly districts.

A Britisher of the name of Curtis has been killed to-day and another named Simpson wounded.

REPORTED SEIZURE OF STEAMERS
BY NATIVE CREWS.

The *Manila Times* of 15th February says:—

A report has reached here of the seizure by the insurgents of the American steamers *Saturnus*, *San Joaquin*, *Don Jose*, *Gloria*, and *San Pedro*, the captain of the latter boat being murdered. This cannot be verified at the present time, but it is feared that the crews of the above mentioned steamers mutinied and turned their vessels over to the insurgents, as was done with the steamer *Compania de Filipinas* soon after the Spanish war began.

The *San Joaquin* left here for Cavayan, Currimar, and Aperri on the 21st of January; the *Saturnus* for San Fernando, Cavayan, Currimar, Appari, and Santa Domingo on February 1st; and the *Gloria* also left for Cavayan, Currimar, and Appari on the 1st of February. These steamers have been long overdue and this gives some colour to the above report, as the ports are in the hands of the insurgents, but not for much longer.

ILOILO OPEN.

Consul General R. Wildman is in receipt of a telegram from General Otis, at Manila, informing him that the port of Iloilo is now open, and vessels may now be cleared at the United States Consulate for that Port.

HONGKONG RACE MEETING.

FIRST DAY, TUESDAY, 21st FEBRUARY.

The heavy rains of the last few days did not bode well for the Race Meeting, which commenced yesterday, and it was anticipated that the course would be in anything but a favourable condition. Fortunately, however, yesterday opened fine, and though the ground through excessive moisture was naturally heavy, the times not being so good in consequence, it was in a better state than might have been expected. As the rain kept off altogether until about half-past four it did not seriously interfere with the proceedings. As usual a long line of booths had been erected and the Government will reap a substantial sum (over \$10,000) as ground rent. The private

stands made a brave show, being most lavishly decorated with plants, flags, and different coloured cloth. Among those present were H.E. Sir Henry Blake, Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Seymour, and H.E. Major-General Gascoigne. In consequence of the threatening weather, the attendance was not so great as last year. All the same from soon after breakfast until late in the afternoon there was a thronged procession from the city to the Race Course, and it was with the greatest difficulty that one could get a ricksha. During the afternoon the band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers played selections of music.

Four races were decided before tiffin, the race of the day—the Hongkong Derby—being run second after tiffin. The Derby entries were 21 in number, and there were nine starters—three less than last year. During the past few days many backers have sworn by Obi and Aberdeen, but Mr. Mody's Wild Rose was known to stand a good chance, though it was not mentioned so much in public as the others. At the finish it was eight lengths ahead of Messrs. McKie and Gore's Strathmore, which was three lengths in front of Mr. John Peel's Seaweed. As he led his horse off the course Mr. Mody was loudly cheered and undoubtedly the win was a most popular one. Mr. Mody has tried hard for the prize since 1896, and success has at last crowned his efforts. He was warmly congratulated by those assembled in his private stand, and on his visiting Mr. McKie's stand received quite an ovation. The time—3.29½—was the slowest since 1888, when it was 3.02.9. Last year, when Yenesi won, it was 3.14½. Mr. Mody also won the Compradore's Cup with Meteor Rose, and his Blush Rose came in second in the race for the Hongkong Club Cup, and his White Rose third in the Lusitano Cup. Mr. R. M. Gray had better luck this year than last. He won first honours in the Valley Stakes, the Victoria Stakes, and the contest for the Lusitano Cup. Captain Lambton, of the *Powerful*, who had entered several ponies, won the first race with his Ute, and it is to be hoped that his success will encourage other naval officers to compete at future meetings. The winner of the Maiden Stakes was Yellow Dwarf, which was ridden by Mr. Master, who was labouring under the disadvantage of having a stiff thigh as the result of a fall from his trap recently. It was unfortunate that in the last race of the afternoon Unit, a pony entered by a newcomer (Mr. Moxon) bolted just before the start and in consequence did not compete.

The following is the list of officials:—

STEWARDS.—His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G.; His Excellency Vice-Admiral, Sir Edward H. Seymour, K.C.B.; His Excellency Major-General W. J. Gascoigne, C.M.G.; Rear-Admiral S. C. Holland, R.N., A.D.C.; Lieutenant-Colonel The O'Gorman, C.S.O.; The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Mr. M. Grote, The Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., C. F. Harton, Mr. D. Gillies, Mr. T. Jackson, Mr. R. M. Gray, the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.; the Hon. T. H. Whitehead.

CLERKS OF THE SCALES.—Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman, C.S.O., and Mr. C. F. Harton.

JUDGE.—The Honourable C. P. Chater, C.M.G.

ASSISTANT JUDGE.—The Honourable F. H. May, C.M.G.

STARTER.—Mr. M. Grote.

2ND STARTER.—Mr. C. S. Anton.

HON. TREASURER.—Mr. J. C. Peter.

CLERK OF THE COURSE.—Mr. T. F. Hough. The WONG-NEI-CHONG STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; griffins on date of entry allowed 3lbs; subscription griffins of this season, 1898-99, allowed 7lbs. Half a mile.

Captain Lambton's Ute, 11st 1lb... (Mr. Moller) 1
Mr. John Peel's Grasshopper, 11st 1lb... (Mr. Master) 2
Mr. Glendaye's Cairngorm, 11st 1lb... (Mr. Cumming) 3
Mr. Buxey's Woodrose, 10st 12lbs... (Mr. Wuillenmier) 0

Fourteen entries. Almost immediately after the start Grasshopper got ahead, and seemed like keeping the lead; but as the winning post was neared Ute secured the first position, and

Grasshopper only just managed to come in second. Time 1min. 34sec.

The "VICTORIA" STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$10 each with \$250 added; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale. One mile.

Mr. Derick Hunter's Sandstorm, 11st 11lb ... (Mr. Burkhill) 1

Mr. Glendaye's Forest King, 11st 4lbs ... (Mr. Cumming) 2

Mr. Buxey's Tube Rose, 11st 4lbs ... (Mr. Wulleumier) 3

Mr. John Peel's Queensberry, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Master) 0

Mr. Orr's Rookwood, 11st 7lbs (Mr. Moller) 0

Four entered for this race. Rookwood started well, and for some time there was a tough struggle between Rookwood and Forest King. The latter had the advantage once or twice, but only for a second. When rather over half-way home the horses spurted and Sandstorm soon got clear, Rookwood being nowhere at the finish. Time, 2min. 19sec.

The MAIDEN STAKES; value \$400; second pony to receive \$75; third, \$50; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$10. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. John Peel's Yellow Dwarf, 10st 10lbs ... (Mr. Master) 1

Mr. Buxey's Rose de France, 1st 12lbs ... (Mr. Wulleumier) 2

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Mainstay, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Burkhill) 3

Mr. David's Dunrobin, 11st 3lbs ... (Mr. Reynell) 0

Mr. John Peel's Minstrel, 10st 12lbs ... (Mr. Cruickshank) 0

Dunrobin was 2lbs over-weight. There were seventeen entries. Mainstay was the first to get clear with Yellow Dwarf second. When half-way home Yellow Dwarf lead, Rose de France, putting on a spurt, securing second place. On the winning post being reached three lengths divided the first and second and there was the same distance between the second and third. Time 1min. 39sec.

The VALLEY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$200 added; first pony to receive 70 per cent; second, 20 per cent; third 10 per cent; for subscription griffins of this season, 1898-99; weight for inches as per scale. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Ultimatum, 10st 9lb ... (Mr. Burkhill) 1

Messrs. McKie and Gove's Strathfleet, 10st 12lbs ... (Mr. Crawford) 2

Mr. Peel's Jim Crack, 10st 10lbs ... (Mr. Master) 3

Capt. Lambton's Amoy, 10st 12lbs ... (Mr. Moller) 0

Mr. Jay's Grief, 11st 0lb ... (Mr. Cox) 0

Mr. Pogose's Tourist, 40st 6lbs ... (Mr. Wulleumier) 0

Mr. David's The Prince, 11st 3lbs ... (Mr. Reynell) 0

Mr. Gordon's Athos, 10st 9lbs (Mr. Owen) 0

Mr. J. H. Lewis's Reveller, 10st 10lbs ... (Mr. P. Cox) 0

Mr. Tierce's Variato, 12st 9lbs ... (Mr. Cruickshank) 0

Mr. Ellis Kelly's Sirdar, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Cumming) 0

Twenty-seven entries. Mr. Master on Jim Crack looked like winning this race, but a short distance from home Ultimatum forged ahead and won easily. Time 1min. 44sec.

The FOCHOW CUP; value \$250; presented by the Fochow community; second pony to receive 150; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; entrance 15. Two miles.

Mr. Hopeful's Tyne, 11st 4lbs ... (Mr. W. W. Cox) 1

Messrs. McKie and Gove's Meneji, 10st 12lbs ... (Mr. Crawford) 0

Thirteen entered. Tyne led from the start, and by the time the Black Rock was reached was two lengths ahead. Just before getting to the bridge again Cox, thinking he was at home, slackened and Meneji got ahead. Cox, however, soon discovered his error, and Meneji being evidently done up soon got hopelessly behind and lost by from 25 to 30 lengths. Time, 4min. 44sec.

The HONGKONG DERBY; a sweepstakes of \$20 each with \$1,500 added; (half forfeit if declared on or before day of closing entries); for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of

entry (Saturday, 14th January, 1899; first pony to receive 70 per cent; second, 20 per cent; third, 10 per cent; weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a half.

Mr. Buxey's Wild Rose, 10st 12lbs ... (Mr. Wulleumier) 1

Messrs. McKie and Gove's Strathmore, 10st 12lbs ... (Mr. Crawford) 2

Mr. John Peel's Seaweed, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Master) 3

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Century, 10st 12lbs ... (Mr. Burkhill) 0

Mr. David's Douglas, 11st 7lbs ... (Mr. Reynell) 0

Mr. Peel's Centipede, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Cruickshank) 0

Mr. David's Ivamhoe, 11st 1lb (Mr. Moller) 0

Mr. Glendaye's Aberdeen, 11st 4lbs ... (Mr. Cumming) 0

Mr. J. H. Lewis's The Wizard, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. P. A. Cox) 0

Mr. Hopeful's Obi, 11st 1lb (Mr. W. W. Cox) 0

Twenty-one entered. At the start Obi got slightly in front but at the Black Rock Seaweed and Century were a little ahead. On going round the village Century was first, followed by Obi, Wild Rose, and Centipede. Passing the stand for the first time, they were all in a bunch, with Seaweed, Century, Douglas, and Centipede in the first row. At the Bridge Seaweed, Century, Obi, and Wild Rose were in front. In the back stretch Centipede got hopelessly behind, Seaweed leading. On going round by the village Wild Rose was first, leading by four lengths, Seaweed and Century being second and third. Wild Rose continued to forge ahead and won by eight lengths, three lengths dividing the second and third. Time 3min. 29sec. — the slowest since 1888.

The LUSITANO CUP; presented by the members of the Club Lusitano; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this meeting 7 lbs. extra; subscription griffins of the season 1898-99, allowed 7 lbs.; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Charger, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Burkhill) 1

Mr. John Peel's Montebello, 10st 12lb ... (Mr. Master) 2

Mr. Buxey's White Rose, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Wulleumier) 3

Messrs. McKie and Gove's Glenmore, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Crawford) 0

Mr. G. H. Potts's Tocsin, 11st 4lb ... (Mr. P. A. Cox) 0

Mr. Orr's Rookwood, 11st 7lb (Mr. Moller) 0

Eighteen entered. Charger and Rookwood got a good start, White Rose being third. On passing the Grand Stand Tocsin was first, followed by Rookwood and Charger. They were in the same order when they reached the Bridge, with Glenmore last. At the Black Rock the order was Rookwood, Charger, Montebello, and Tocsin. At the village Charger shot ahead, White Rose and Montebello coming up. Charger lead along the straight, being hard pressed by Montebello and White Rose. At the distance post White Rose took the lead. Then Charger drew up and won a capital race by half a length, the same distance dividing the second and third. Time 2min. 54sec.

The COMRADORS' CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1898-99; weight for inches as per scale; winner of Valley Stakes 5lbs. extra; entrance 15. One mile.

Mr. Buxey's Meteor Rose, 10st 9lbs ... (Mr. Wulleumier) 1

Capt. Lambton's Quemoy, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Moller) 2

Messrs. McKie and Gove's Strathdoon, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Crawford) 3

Mr. Peel's Jim Crow, 10st 9lbs ... (Mr. Master) 0

Mr. J. H. Lewis's Reveller, 10st 12lbs ... (Mr. P. A. Cox) 0

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Concession, 10st 12lb ... (Mr. Burkhill) 0

Twenty-seven entered. At the first attempt Concession took the lead from Jim Crow with Quemoy third. At the Grand Stand the order was Concession, Meteor Rose, Jim Crow. The order was the same at the bridge, and there was no change when the Black Rock was reached. On going down to the village Meteor Rose took the lead from Concession, and at the village

itself the order was Meteor Rose, Jim Crow, Concession, Quemoy. In the Straight Meteor Rose was still ahead, Jim Crow and Quemoy challenging him. Meteor Rose ultimately won by a neck, a length and a half dividing the second and third. Time, 2min. 24sec.

The HONGKONG CLUB CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$15. One mile and a half.

Mr. Glendaye's Forest King, 11st 4lbs ... (Mr. Cumming) 1

Mr. Buxey's Blush Rose, 11st 4lbs ... (Mr. Wulleumier) 2

Mr. Peel's Pineapple, 10st 9lbs (Mr. Master) 3

Mr. Hopeful's Amur, 11st 1lb ... (Mr. W. W. Cox) 0

Fifteen entered. Immediately after the start Blush Rose took the lead, and at the Black Rock was still ahead with Amur second and Forest King third. Blush Rose continued to lead and on passing the Grand Stand was two lengths ahead, Pineapple being second. At the Bridge the order was the same, though Pineapple had made some headway. Down the Back Stretch Pineapple and Forest King came up, the latter taking the lead at the half-mile post and Forest King passing Blush Rose. The order at the village was Pineapple, Forest King, Blush Rose. In the Straight Forest King took the lead, and at the distance post Blush Rose was second, with Pineapple third, the order being the same at the finish. Won by two lengths, half a length dividing the second and third. Time, 3 min. 33 sec.

The ENCOURAGEMENT STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; for subscription griffins of this season, 1898-99; first pony to receive 70 per cent; second 20 per cent; third, 10 per cent; previous winners excluded; weight for inches as per scale. Once round.

Mr. Ellis Kelly's Sirdar 11st 1lb ... (Mr. Cumming) 1

Mr. Peel's Jim Crack, 10st 9lb (Mr. Master) 2

Mr. Arnold's Straightaway, 11st 4lb ... (Mr. Moller) 3

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Blizzard, 10st 12lb ... (Mr. Burkhill) 0

Mr. Newcome's Unit, 11st 1lb (Mr. Green) 0

Messrs. McKie and Gove's Strathmist, 11st 12lb ... (Mr. Crawford) 0

Mr. Buxey's Bourbon Rose, 10st 9lb ... (Mr. Wulleumier) 0

Mr. Tierce's Variety, 10st 11lb ... (Mr. Cruickshank) 0

Twenty-eight entered. Blizzard got away, with Jim Crack second, but at the Bridge Jim Crack was ousted from the second place by Straightaway. The order was the same at the Black Rock, Blizzard having, however, increased his lead. At the village Sirdar and Jim Crack came up. The latter passed Straightaway, but Blizzard still maintained a good lead. At the Distance Post Sirdar and Jim Crack came together, but after a short tough struggle Sirdar won by a neck, there being also a very close race between the second and third. Time, 2min. 84sec.

SECOND DAY, WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY.

The weather being beautifully fine yesterday the scene which was witnessed on the Race Course was a very brilliant one, the handsome dresses of the ladies, who were present in force, showing up exceedingly well. Though rather slow at first the ground improved during the day, and in consequence the times were an improvement on Tuesday.

The race of the day—the German Cup—was won by Messrs. McKie and Gove's Strathfleet, the Prince, which started well, being out of it at the finish. Mr. Mody's White Rose, the winner of the Derby, was again to the fore in the Navy Cup, managing to beat Forest King by three lengths. The Jockey Cup was a capital race. It ended somewhat unexpectedly, the winner—Mr. Lewis's Chaffinch—only coming to the front at the last moment. The contest for the Tai Yek Fong Cup had an exciting finish, Strathmore and Aberdeen running a dead heat. The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving's Pineapple, which won the Professional Cup last year, was again successful in the same race, the time being 3-25½ against 3-15. So far the honours of the meeting are fairly well divided. We may add that in our issue of yesterday our correspon-

dent "tipped" winners of three consecutive races—the German Cup, the Navy Cup, and the Jockey Cup.

The SCURRY STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$10 each; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; winner 7lbs. extra. One mile.

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Century, 10st 2lbs	1
(Mr. Burkill)	
Mr. Glendaye's Aberdeen, 11st 4lbs	2
(Mr. Cumming)	
Mr. Hopeful's Obi, 11st 1lb (Mr. W. W. Cox)	3
Mr. Buxey's Rose de France, 10st 12lbs	0
(Mr. Wulleumier)	
Mr. David's Dunrobin, 11st 2lbs (Mr. Reynell)	0
Mr. J. H. Lewis's The Wizard, 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. P. A. Cox)	
Mr. John Peel's Centipede, 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. Master)	
Mr. John Peel's Minstrel, 10st 13lbs	0
(Mr. Cruickshank)	

Eighteen entered. A start was made punctually at 12 o'clock. All got off together, no particular horse having any advantage, but Dunrobin, Centipede, and Wizard got in front. At the Bridge Dunrobin, Rose de France, and Centipede led. At the Black Rock Century was half-a-length ahead of Obi. Aberdeen took third place on approaching the village. At the village itself Century had a lead of ten lengths of Obi and Aberdeen, which lead he well maintained. Coming down the Straight Aberdeen took second place and Obi third. Century won by five lengths, six lengths separating Aberdeen from Obi, the latter being half-a-length in front of Rose de France. Time, 2min. 15sec.

The EXCHANGE PLATE; value \$500; presented by the bankers and exchange brokers of Hongkong; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; *bona fide* griffins on date of entry allowed 5lbs.; winners at this Meeting 7lbs. extra; entrance \$10. From the two-mile post once round and in.

Mr. John Peel's Yellow Dwarf, 10st 11lbs	1
(Mr. Master)	
Mr. Buxey's White Rose, 11st 1lb	2
(Mr. Wulleumier)	
Mr. Buxey's Tea Rose, 11st 1lb	3
(Mr. Cumming)	
Mr. Derick Hunter's Sandstorm, 11st 8lbs	0
(Mr. Burkill)	
Mr. Hopeful's Orwell, 11st 7lb	0
(Mr. W. W. Cox)	

Twenty-one entered. At the grand stand Sandstorm had the advantage, with Tea Rose second and Yellow Dwarf third. At the Bridge the order was Tea Rose, Sandstorm, Yellow Dwarf. Ten lengths behind came White Rose and Orwell. In the Back Stretch the order remained the same except that White Rose took fourth place, Orwell also coming up. At the Village Yellow Dwarf took the lead, with Tea Rose second and Sandstorm third, White Rose still improving his position. In the Straight Yellow Dwarf maintained the lead, White Rose taking second place. It was evident, however, that Yellow Dwarf would be the winner. At the finishing post Yellow Dwarf was two lengths ahead of White Rose, ten lengths dividing the second and third. Time, 2 min. 15 sec. last mile.

The GARRISON CUP; presented by the officers of the Garrison; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; winners 7lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. David's Douglas, 11st 7lbs	1
(Mr. Reynell)	
Mr. John Peel's Seaweed, 11st (Mr. Master)	2
Mr. Buxey's Wild Rose, 11st 5lbs	3
(Mr. Wulleumier)	
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Mainstay, 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. Burkill)	

Nineteen entries. Mainstay led off, with Seaweed second. Coming into the Straight Mainstay was first, Douglas second, and Wild Rose third. At the Bridge Mainstay and Douglas were together, the other two being also abreast of each other. At the Black Rock Douglas led, with Seaweed second, Wild Rose being third. Mainstay had finished, Douglas still maintained the lead by the Village, Seaweed and Wild Rose racing together behind him. Douglas won by four lengths, ten lengths

dividing the second and third. Time, 2min. 49sec.

The GERMAN CUP; presented by members of the German Club; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1898-99; weight for inches as per scale; entrance, \$10. One mile and a quarter Messrs. McKie & Gove's Strathfleet, 10st 1¹/₂lbs

(Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Ultimatum, 10st 9lbs	2
(Mr. Burkill)	
Capt. Lambton's Quemoy, 11st 1lb	3
(Mr. Moller)	
Mr. David's The Prince, 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. Reynell)	
Mr. Jay's Greif, 11st 1lb (Mr. W. W. Cox)	0
Mr. Ellis Kelly's Sirdar, 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. Cumming)	
Mr. Buxey's Meteor Rose, 10st 9lbs	0
(Mr. Wulleumier)	

Twenty-seven entered. Starting Meteor Rose and Greif took the lead. On passing the Grand Stand the order was Meteor Rose, the Prince, and Greif. At the Bridge the Prince was in front, Quemoy being second. In the Back Stretch Ultimatum was coming up, and Strathfleet passed Greif. The order at the Black Rock was Strathfleet Quemoy, Ultimatum. At the Village Strathfleet was four lengths ahead of Quemoy, with Ultimatum third. In the Straight Strathfleet had a still better lead, and at the finishing post was 12 lengths in front of Ultimatum, which passed Quemoy about half a furlong from home and finished about half a length in front. Time, 2min. 50¹/₂sec.

The NAVY CUP; presented by officers of H.M. Fleet; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners of one race at this meeting 7lbs. extra; of two or more races, 10 lbs. extra; previous non-starters to carry 12st.; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Buxey's White Rose 11st 1lb	1
(Mr. Wulleumier)	
Mr. Glendaye's Forest King 11st 1lb	2
(Mr. Cumming)	
Mr. John Peel's Montebello 10st 1lb	3
(Mr. Master)	
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Charger 11st 8lb	0
(Mr. Burkill)	
Messrs. McKie and Gove's Glenmore 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. Crawford)	

Nineteen entered. Montebello and Charger took the lead, with White Rose third. Passing the Stand the order was Charger, Montebello, and Forest King. The order was the same at the Bridge. In the Back Stretch Forest King passed White Rose. Turning round to the Village Charger and Montebello were together, White Rose and Forest King being also abreast. At the Village they were practically all together. Entering the Straight Forest King took the lead from Montebello, but White Rose was coming fast and soon secured first place, which he kept and won by three lengths, five lengths dividing the second and third. Times, 2min. 49sec.

The JOCKEY CUP; value \$150; second pony to receive \$50; for subscription ponies of any season, winners excluded; to be ridden by jockeys who have not had a winning mount previous to this meeting in Hongkong or China; weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. J. H. Lewis's Chaffinch, 10st 12lbs	1
(Mr. Owen)	
Mr. John Peel's Jim Crow, 10st 9lbs	2
(Mr. West)	
Mr. John Peel's Traveller, 11st 4lbs	3
(Mr. Newland)	
Mr. Buxey's Bourbon Rose, 10st 12lbs	0
(Mr. McClure)	
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Concession, 10st 12lb	0
(Mr. Walwyn)	
Mr. Robert Gordon's Athos, 10st 9lbs	0
(Mr. Riddle)	
Mr. Jay's Adler, 11st 3lbs	0
(Mr. Pappier)	
Capt. Lambton's Amoy, 10st 12lbs	0
(Mr. Keyes)	
Mr. Newcome's Unit, 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. Green)	
Mr. Newcome's Reveller, 11st 5lbs	0
(Mr. Bruce)	

Twenty-seven entered. Passing the Stand Athos and Chaffinch led. At the Bridge Concession had ousted Chaffinch from the second place, Athos leading by six lengths. In the

Back Stretch Jim Crow passed Chaffinch. At the Black Rock the order was Athos, Concession, Jim Crow, and Traveller. By the Village Jim Crow shot ahead with Concession second. In the Straight Jim Crow and Traveller took the lead, with Concession second, but Chaffinch shot to the front and won by three lengths, six lengths dividing the second and third. Time, 2 min. 18 sec.

The FLYAWAY STAKES; sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$100 added; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; subscription ponies of any season non winners allowed 7lbs.; subscription ponies of any season winners allowed 3lb; previous winners at this meeting 7lb. extra. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Orr's Rookwood, 11st 7lb	1
(Mr. Moller)	
Mr. G. H. Potts's Tocsin, 11st 4lb	2
(Mr. P. A. Cox)	
Mr. John Peel's Grasshopper, 11st 1lb	3
(Mr. Master)	
Mr. Buxey's Tube Rose, 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. Wulleumier)	
Mr. Glendaye's Cairngorm, 1st 1lb	0
(Mr. Cumming)	
Mr. Hopeful's Amur, 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. W. W. Cox)	
Mr. J. H. Lewis's The Wizard 11st 1lb	0
(Mr. Burkill)	

Sixteen entered. Rookwood took the lead, with Grasshopper and Wizard second and third. At the Black Rock Rookwood still led, with Wizard second. At the Village Rookwood was still in front, the order of the others being Grasshopper, Tube Rose, Cairngorm, Wizard, Tocsin, and Amur. In the Straight Tocsin pulled up well, but could not pass Rookwood, which won by a couple of lengths, one length dividing the second and third, Cairngorm being very close up to Grasshopper. Time, 1 min. 38 sec.

The TAI YEUK FONG CUP; value \$200; presented; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry; subscription griffins weight for inches as per scale, other griffins 7lbs. extra; previous winners 7lbs. extra; entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Strathmore, 11st 5lb	+
(Mr. Crawford)	
Mr. Glendaye's Aberdeen, 11st 11lbs	+
(Mr. Cumming)	
Mr. Buxey's Rose de France, 11st 5lbs	3
(Mr. Wulleumier)	
Mr. David's Ivanhoe, 11st 8lbs (Mr. Reynell)	0
Mr. Derick Hunter's Mainstay, 11st 8lbs	0
(Mr. Burkill)	
Mr. Hopeful's Obi, 11st 8lbs (Mr. W. W. Cox)	0
Mr. John Peel's Minstrel, 11st 5lbs	0
(Mr. Cruickshank)	

Twenty-three entered. Minstrel led off with Ivanhoe second. In the Straight Obi was leading, followed by Minstrel, Rose de France, and Ivanhoe. At the Stand Ivanhoe had secured third place, Strathmore being last. Strathmore was also last at the Bridge, Mainstay taking second place. At the Black Rock Aberdeen took the lead, Rose de France being second. Round by the Village Aberdeen and Strathmore were close together, and it was now seen that one of these would be the winner, as they entered the Straight neck to neck. An exciting race ended in a dead heat between these two ponies. Time, 3 min. 25 sec.

The PROFESSIONAL CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this Meeting of one race 5lbs. extra; of two races 7lbs. extra; and of three or more races 10lbs. extra; non-starters at this Meeting excluded; entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

Mr. John Peel's Pineapple 10st 9lbs	1
(Mr. Master)	
Mr. Buxey's Blush Rose, 11st 4lbs	2
(Mr. Wulleumier)	
Messrs. McKie & Gove's Meneji, 10st 12lbs	3
(Mr. Crawford)	
Capt. Lambton's Uta, 11st 6lbs (Mr. Moller)	0

Twenty entered. Pineapple got slightly away. At the Black Rock Meneji and Blush Rose were together. Coming round by the Village the order was Blush Rose, Meneji, Uta, and Pineapple. The Straight was entered in the

same order. There was no change at the Bridge. In the Back Stretch Meneji passed Blush Rose, Pineapple and Ute being three-quarters of a length behind. At the Village Meneji and Blush Rose were together, with Pineapple one length behind. In the Straight Pineapple came up level with Blush Rose and Meneji, and taking the lead was soon six lengths ahead, being that distance in front at the finish, a length and a half dividing the second and third. Time, 3min. 25½sec.

The GYMKHANA STAKES; value \$200; presented by the Gymkhana Committee, added to a sweepstakes of \$5 each; for subscription ponies of any season; winners and previous non-starters excluded; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; third, 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale, One mile.

Mr. David's The Prince, 11st 1lb	(Mr. Reynell)	1
Mr. John Peel's Jim Crack, 10st 9lbs	(Mr. Master)	2
Capt. Lambton's Quemoy, 11st 1lb	(Mr. Moller)	3
Mr. Arnold's Straightaway, 11st 4lb	(Mr. P. A. Cox)	0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Blizzard, 10st 12lb	(Mr. Burkill)	0
Messrs. McKie & Gove's Strathdoon, 11st 1lb	(Mr. Crawford)	0
Mr. Tierce's Variety, 10st 10lbs	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0

Twenty-six entered. Quemoy led off, The Prince being second, and Jim Crack third. At the Bridge the Prince and Quemoy were together, with Jim Crack next and Blizzard pulling up. In the Back Stretch Blizzard got ahead, with The Prince and Quemoy second and third. Coming down from the Black Rock The Prince got in front, Blizzard being second. The order was the same at the Village, with Quemoy third. Then Quemoy ousted Blizzard from the second position, and Jim Crack coming up from the outside, it was seen that the race would be between The Prince and Jim Crack. The Prince proved the winner by two lengths, there being only a head between Jim Crack and Quemoy. Time, 2min. 18½sec.

THIRD DAY, THURSDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY.

Beautiful weather again favouring the Race Meeting yesterday there was a still further improvement in the times of the different events, the public also attending in greater numbers. The time in the race for the Championship Stakes was 3:16, but considering the rain we have had recently it may be said to be really better than that of last year (3:44), when the elements were much more propitious on the first day of the race and immediately before. Rather long odds were laid on Yellow Dwarf for this race, but it made an exceedingly poor show, being out of the race altogether. Tyne, on the other hand, was to the front almost from the first. When nearing home Forest King drew out and Strathfleet also began to look dangerous. Forest King got ahead, but Tyne just managed to win. Tyne was again successful in winning the Challenge Cup, which now becomes the property of the owners of the pony, Messrs. Toeg and Pobst. The time was 3:58 against 3:49½. The Governor's Cup was won by Messrs. McKie and Gove's Strathfleet notwithstanding a penalty of 14 lbs., and the jockey (Mr. Crawford) is to be congratulated upon the performance. As they were the winners last year it now becomes their property. Messrs. McKie and Gove have also won the German Cup two years in succession. There was a stiff race for the Ladies' Purse, Mr. R. M. Gray's Sandstorm just managing to pull it off. Miss Blake presented the prize to the jockey, Mr. Burkill, who handed her a bouquet and then called for three cheers for the ladies of Hongkong, a call which was heartily responded to. Tocsin and Strathmore tied for the second place in this event.

The GRAND STAND STAKES; value \$150; second pony to receive \$50; third, \$25; for China ponies bona fide griffins on date of entry; winners of one race 5 lbs. extra; of two races 7 lbs. extra; and of three or more races 9 lbs. extra; subscription griffins non-winners allowed 5 lbs.; entrance \$5. Once round.

Mr. Glenday's Aberdeen, 11st 9lbs	(Mr. Cumming)	1
Mr. David's Dunrobin, 11st 2lbs	(Mr. Reynell)	2
Mr. Buxey's Rose de France, 10st 12lbs	(Mr. Wulleumier)	3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Century, 11st 3lbs	(Mr. Burkill)	0
Mr. Hopeful's Obi, 11st 1lb	(Mr. W. W. Cox)	0
Mr. J. H. Lewis's The Wizard, 11st 1lb	(Mr. P. A. Cox)	0
Mr. John Peel's Centipede, 11st 1lb	(Mr. Master)	0
Mr. John Peel's Minstrel, 10st 12lbs	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0

Nineteen entered. After two attempts, the first being spoiled by Obi and the second by Obi and Aberdeen, Dunrobin took a slight lead, and was in front when the Bridge was reached Centipede being second and the Wizard third. In the Back Stretch Dunrobin was two lengths ahead, Centipede, Obi, Century, and the Wizard being practically abreast. At the Rock Dunrobin was still two lengths ahead, with Century second and Centipede third. At the Village all drew up, though Dunrobin had still the advantage, Centipede being second and Aberdeen third, Obi falling back, Century following suit immediately afterward. Going along the Straight Dunrobin was still in front, with Obi second, Centipede third, and Rose de France fourth Aberdeen, however, pulled up and won on the post by a neck, a length and a half dividing the second and third. Time, 1 min. 58sec.

The CIVIL SERVICE CUP; presented; second pony to receive half the entrance fees; for subscription griffins of this season, 1898-99; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners 7 lbs. extra; penalties accumulative; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. John Peel's Jim Crow, 10st 9lb	(Mr. Master)	1
Mr. Ellis Kelly's Sirdar, 11st 8lb	(Mr. Cumming)	2
Mr. David's The Prince, 11st 8lb	(Mr. Reynell)	3
Mr. Arnold's Straightaway, 11st 4lb	(Mr. P. A. Cox)	0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Ultimatum, 11st 2lb	(Mr. Burkill)	0
Capt. Lambton's Amoy 10st 12lb	(Mr. Moller)	0
Mr. John Peel's Traveller, 11st 4lb	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. Pogose's Tourist, 10st 6lb	(Mr. Wulleumier)	0
Mr. Tierce's Variety, 10st 9lb	(Mr. Crawford)	0

Twenty-seven entered. After a capital start Tourist and Amoy led, with Prince third. Tourist was still in front at the Bridge, Amoy also maintaining his position. In the Back Stretch Amoy, Tourist, and Straightaway came together. On approaching the Rock Jim Crow took third place, and at the Rock itself the order was Amoy, Tourist, Jim Crow, the Prince. Round the bend to the Village Jim Crow led up to Tourist, Variety also coming up. On entering the Straight Jim Crow was first. Sirdar made a spurt and got second place, Amoy and Tourist dropping out. Jim Crow won by three lengths, half-a-length dividing the second and third. Time, 2min. 14 sec.

The CHALLENGE CUP; value 100 guineas; for China ponies; to be won two years consecutively by a pony or ponies the bona fide property of the same owner; first pony to receive 70 per cent.; second, 20 per cent.; and third 10 per cent. of entrance fees; weight for inches as per scale; entrance (forced) \$5, but optional to subscription griffins of this season, 1898-99. One mile and three quarters.

Mr. Hopeful's Tyne, 11st 4lbs	(Mr. W. W. Cox)	1
Mr. Buxey's Wild Rose, 10st 12lbs	(Mr. Wulleumier)	2
Mr. John Peel's Pineapple, 10st 9lbs	(Mr. Master)	3
Mr. Buxey's Blush Rose, 11st 4lbs	(Mr. Cumming)	0
Capt. Lambton's Earl Marshall, 11st 9lbs	(Mr. Moller)	0

Mr. J. H. Lewis's Chaffinch, 10st 12lbs	(Mr. P. A. Cox)	0
Mr. John Peel's Centipede, 11st 1lb	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0

Forty-four entered. Blush Rose soon took first place, with Centipede second. Earl Marshall third and Tyne fourth. In the Back Stretch Earl Marshall led, and continued in front until the Village was reached, when Centipede, Blush Rose, and Tyne were together. Blush Rose was ahead at the Stand and also at the Bridge, but by the time the Black Rock was reached Tyne had pulled up and was in front. Then Wild Rose and Tyne were together, Wild Rose ultimately getting a good lead. Along the Straight a stiff race took place between Tyne and Wild Rose, the former ultimately winning by half a length, three lengths dividing the second and third. Time, 3 min. 58 sec.

The LADIES' PURSE; presented; for all China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners at this meeting other than subscription griffins 5 lbs. extra; unplaced ponies allowed 5 lbs.; previous non-starters at this meeting 12 lbs. extra; entrance \$5. Seven furlongs.

Mr. Derick-Hunter's Sandstorm, 11st 6lbs	(Mr. Burkill)	1
Messrs. McKie and Gove's Strathmore, 11st 3lbs	(Mr. Crawford)	*
Mr. G. H. Potts's Tocsin 11st 4lbs	(Mr. P. A. Cox)	*
Mr. John Peel's Grasshopper, 11st 1lb	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. Buxey's Tube Rose, 11st 4lbs	(Mr. Wulleumier)	0
Mr. Buxey's Wood Rose, 10st 10lbs	(Mr. Cumming)	0
Capt. Lambton's Ute, 11st 6lbs	(Mr. Moller)	0
Mr. J. H. Lewis's The Wizard, 10st 10lbs	(Mr. Owen)	0
Mr. John Peel's Yellow Dwarf, 11st 0lb	(Mr. Master)	0

Twenty-five entered. The two Roses took the lead, with Grasshopper third. At the Bridge the order was Grasshopper, Tube Rose, Ute, Wizard, Wood Rose having pulled up. At the Village Tube Rose and Tocsin were leading, but in the Straight Sandstorm got in front, and won by a length and a half, Tocsin and Strathmore running a dead heat. Yellow Dwarf, which was expected by many to win, made a very poor show. Time, 1min. 52½ sec.

The "BLAKE" CHALLENGE CUP; presented by His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G.; for subscription griffins of this season; to be won twice by ponies the bona fide property of the same owner or owners; first pony to receive 70 per cent. of the entrance fees; second 20 per cent.; third 10 per cent.; weight for inches as per scale; winner of the Valley Stakes and/or German Cup 14 lbs. extra; winners of any other races 7 lbs. extra; penalties accumulative up to 14 lbs.; entrance fee \$10. One Mile.

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Strathfleet, 11st 12lb	(Mr. Crawford)	1
Mr. Pogose's Tourist, 10st 6lbs	(Mr. Wulleumier)	2
Mr. Buxey's Meteor Rose, 11st 2lbs	(Mr. Cumming)	3
Mr. David's The Prince, 11st 8lbs	(Mr. Reynell)	0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Concession, 10st 12lbs	(Mr. Burkill)	0
Capt. Lambton's Quemoy, 11st 1lb	(Mr. Moller)	0
Messrs. McKie & Gove's Strathdoon, 11st 1lb	(Mr. Cruickshank)	0
Mr. John Peel's Jim Crack, 10st 9lb	(Mr. Master)	0

Twenty-six entered. At the Bridge Prince led, with Quemoy and Jim Crack second and third. The order remained the same in the Back Stretch. Going down to the village Strathfleet took third place, and the order when the Straight was entered was Prince, Jim Crack, Strathfleet. Then Strathfleet got in front, with Tourist second and Quemoy third, Meteor Rose coming up. Strathfleet won by a length, three lengths dividing the second and third. Time, 2min. 11½sec.

The PARSEK CUP; presented; second pony to receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for inches as per scale; winners of one race at this Meeting 5 lbs. extra; of two or more

aces 7 lbs. extra; unplaced ponies allowed 5 lbs.; entrance \$10. One mile and a quarter. Mr. Derick-Hunter's Sandstorm, 11st 8lbs (Mr. Burkill) 1
Mr. John Peel's Queensberry, 10st 10lbs (Mr. Master) 2
Mr. McKie & Gove's Meneji, 10st 12lbs (Mr. Crawford) 3
Mr. Buxey's Rose de France, 10st 12lb (Mr. Wulleumier) 0
Mr. Hopeful's Amur, 11st 0lb (Mr. W. W. Cox) 0

Twenty-three entered. Amur was carrying 4lbs. overweight. Queensberry led off, Rose de France coming second. Entering the Straight Rose de France took the lead, Queensberry coming second and Amur third. The order was the same at the Stand and at the Bridge Sandstorm was last. In the Back Stretch Sandstorm spurted, and when the Rock was reached was ahead of the others, Queensberry coming second and Rose de France third. At the Village Meneji got before Rose de France. In the Straight Sandstorm got well ahead, and won by four lengths, two and a half lengths dividing the second and third. Time, 2 min. 44 sec.

The PHAETON STAKES; value \$250; second pony to receive 70 per cent. of entrance fees; third, 30 per cent.; for China ponies *bond fide* griffins on date of entry; weight for inches as per scale; previous winners at this meeting 5 lbs extra; penalties accumulative; unplaced ponies allowed 5lbs.; subscription griffins of the season, 1898-99, allowed 7lbs.; entrance \$5. From the two-mile post once round and in.

Messrs. McKie & Gove's Strathmore, 11st 8lbs (Mr. Crawford) 1
Mr. David's Dunrobin, 11st 1lb (Mr. Reynell) 2
Mr. John Peel's Seaweed, 11st 1lb (Mr. Master) 3
Mr. Buxey's Wild Rose, 11st 3lbs (Mr. Wulleumier) 0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Century, 11st 3lbs (Mr. Burkill) 0
Mr. J. H. Lewis's The Wizard, 10st 10lbs (Mr. P. A. Cox) 0
Mr. John Peel's Minstrel, 10st 10lbs (Mr. Cruickshank) 0

Twenty-three entered. Seaweed took the lead, followed by Dunrobin and the Wizard. Passing the Stand the Wizard led, Minstrel being second and Seaweed third. There was no change at the Bridge, but in the Back Stretch Century took the lead from Seaweed. Going up to the Rock Wild Rose took the third place. At the Rock Century had a lead of four lengths. Coming down to the Village Strathmore got into the second place, and forging ahead got in front, with Century as second. In the Straight Strathmore had a big lead from Century and Dunrobin, Wild Rose having finished. Strathmore won by six lengths, three lengths dividing the second and third. Time, 2 min. 23 1/2 sec.

The CONSOLATION STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$150 added; second pony to receive \$50; for beaten China ponies at this Meeting; weight for inches as per scale.

Mr. John Peel's Montebello, 11st 12lbs (Mr. Master) 1
Mr. Buxey's Tea Rose, 11st 1lb (Mr. Wulleumier) 2
Mr. John Peel's Grasshopper, 11st 1lb (Mr. Cruickshank) 3
Mr. G. H. Potts's Tocsin, 11st 4lbs (Mr. P. A. Cox) 0

Montebello and Tea Rose got first, with Grasshopper next. At the Bridge Montebello led. Entering the Back Stretch Grasshopper got in front, and at the Rock led by four lengths. Coming down to the Village they all closed up. Montebello got a slight lead, but all entered the Straight together. A capital race ended in a win for Montebello by about half a length, the second and third being also close together. Time 2 min.

The CHAMPION STAKES; with \$250 added; for China ponies winners at this meeting only; a forced entry; entrance \$20; winner of two races \$30; of three or more \$50; weight for inches as per scale. One mile and a half.

Mr. Hopeful's Tyne, 11st 4lbs (Mr. W. W. Cox) 1
Mr. Glendaye's Forest King, 11st 4lbs (Mr. Cumming) 2

Messrs McKie and Gove's Strathfleet, 10st 12lbs (Mr. Crawford) 3
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Charger, 11st 1lb (Mr. Burkill) 0
Mr. Orr's Rookwood, 11st 7lbs (Mr. Moller) 0
Mr. David's Douglas, 11st 7lbs (Mr. Reynell) 0
Mr. Glendaye's Aberdeen, 11st 4lbs (Mr. Master) 0
Mr. John Peel's Yellow Dwarf, 10st 9lbs (Mr. Cruickshank) 0
Mr. J. H. Lewis's Chaffinch, 10st 12lbs (Mr. P. A. Cox) 0
Mr. Buxey's White Rose, 11st 1lb (Mr. Wulleumier) 0

Mr. Glendaye declared best to win. After several false starts Douglas got away, followed by Aberdeen and Forest King. At the Rock Tyne took the lead from Douglas, Aberdeen being still third and Rookwood fourth. The order was the same on passing the Village. Entering the Straight for the first time Tyne was still in front, Aberdeen being second, Douglas third, Rookwood fourth, and Forest King fifth. Passing the Stand the order was practically the same. Yellow Dwarf was a long way behind. Tyne kept the lead, but at the Bridge Douglas took second place, with Aberdeen third and Forest King fourth. In the Back Stretch Forest King took third place, and at the Rock the order was Tyne, Aberdeen, Forest King. Passing the Village Forest King came to the front and Charger also made an effort, White Rose also coming forward, Aberdeen lagging behind. Strathfleet also put on a spurt. There was a splendid race along the Straight; Forest King, however, looked like winning, but Tyne just managed to pull the race off, Forest King being second, and Strathfleet third. A very close finish. Time, 3 min. 16 sec.

The NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES; a sweepstakes of \$5 each with \$50 added; second pony to receive \$50; third pony \$25; for beaten subscription griffins of this season, 1898-99; weight for inches as per scale. Half a mile.

Mr. Tierce's Variety, 10st 9lb (Mr. Cumming) 1
Mr. John Peel's Jim Crack, 10st 9lb (Mr. Master) 2
Mr. Pogose's Tourist, 10st 6lb (Mr. Wulleumier) 3
Mr. Arnold's Straightaway, 11st 4lb (Mr. Moller) 0
Mr. Derick-Hunter's Blizzard, 10st 12lb (Mr. Burkill) 0
Mr. Jay's Greif, 10st 13lb (Mr. W. W. Cox) 0
Capt. Lambton's Amoy, 10st 12lb (Mr. Keys) 0
Mr. J. H. Lewis's Reveller, 10st 12lb (Mr. P. A. Cox) 0
Mr. Newcome's Unit, 11st 1lb (Mr. Green) 0
Mr. John Peel's Traveller, 11st 4lb (Mr. Green) 0

Twenty-eight entered. Traveller got away first, followed by Blizzard and Tourist. Blizzard, Tourist, and Straightaway was the order on coming round by the Village, Blizzard maintaining the lead on entering the Straight, Jim Crack being second. Then Variety came out of the centre and won a close race. Time, 1 min. 03 sec.

WINNING OWNERS AND JOCKEYS.

The following is a complete list of the wins scored by owners and jockeys during the meeting.

OWNERS.	Firsts. Seconds. Thirds.		
	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.
Mr. Derick Hunter	6	1	1
Mr. John Peel	5	8	9
Messrs. McKie & Gove	4	3	4
Mr. Buxey	3	6	7
Mr. Glendaye	3	4	1
Mr. David	2	2	1
Mr. Hopeful	2	—	1
Capt. Lambton	1	1	2
Mr. Ellis Kelley	1	1	—
Mr. Tierce	1	—	—
Mr. Orr	1	—	—
Mr. J. H. Lewis	1	—	—
Mr. G. H. Potts	—	11	—
Mr. Pogose	—	1	1
Mr. Arnold	—	—	1
Mr. Gordon	—	—	—
Mr. Newcome	—	—	—

JOCKEYS.

	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.
Mr. Burkill	6	1	1
Mr. Master	5	7	7
Mr. Cumming	5	5	3
Mr. Crawford	4	3	4
Mr. Wulleumier	3	7	6
Mr. Reynell	2	2	1
Mr. Moller	2	1	3
Mr. W. W. Cox	2	—	1
Mr. Owen	1	—	—
Mr. P. A. Cox	—	2	—
Mr. Cruickshank	—	—	1
Mr. Newland	—	—	1
Mr. West	—	—	—

CHINA, ANGLO-AMERICA, AND CORN.

LECTURE BY MR. GRANVILLE SHARP.

On 20th February Mr. Granville Sharp delivered a lecture in the City Hall, under the auspices of the Odd Volumes Society, the title being "China, Anglo-America, and Corn." Col. Evatt presided over a fairly large audience.

Colonel EVATT, in opening the proceedings, said—Ladies and gentlemen, a very pleasant duty devolves upon me this evening. Mr. Granville Sharp has been good enough to offer for our consideration a lecture on "China, Anglo-America, and Corn." I have much pleasure in asking Mr. Granville Sharp to commence his address.

INTRODUCTION.

Mr. SHARP commenced by saying: There is one consolation in speaking upon such a miserable afternoon as this is, as we feel satisfied that none of the young men who are present have been deprived of a pleasant walk. Perhaps some of you expected to hear a lecture from Dr. Jordan. The Doctor is not able to be here this afternoon, and we have been asked to do our best to supply his lack of service. You will all be glad to know that the pleasure is only postponed, and that we shall have the promised opportunity of hearing Dr. Jordan this day week. The paper which we have before us was written six months ago, and we cannot help realizing that there is really very little in it which is new, although some few lines have been added to bring it up to date. But there are some amongst you who know just as much as we do about China and the Chinese. So please make indulgent allowances. Since this was written the trend of public opinion has gradually and increasingly leaned towards the line of argument which we have adopted. This has followed from the very interesting and important leading articles which have appeared in the China Press in the North and the South during the last few months. There have also been a number of letters, some authenticated by the names of the writers, others have been anonymous. We should love to know the writers, and have a strong desire to make their acquaintance. As a proof of what can be accomplished, we have only to look across the harbour. Nothing now be seen by reason of the fog, but when the sun shines to-morrow we may look over the magnificent addition which has been secured to this colony upon the mainland. This has been the doing of Hongkong and of the people now residing here and of those who have lived here in the past. It is mainly the work of the Hon. Mr. Chater and of the China Association. We may take great encouragement from the thought that in this matter we have not laboured in vain and that our voices are beginning, at last, to be heard by the authorities at Home. The following article was prepared for delivery before an American audience, but, upon the writer's arrival in New York, a blizzard prevailed, and, as he had to hasten to reach Vancouver in time for the *Empress of China* steamship, he left the paper behind. It has since appeared in the first number of the new magazine, *The Anglo-American*. It will, in this form, obtain a much wider notice. We have an especial favour to ask of you this evening, viz., that in place of being a fairly representative gathering of the Hongkong community, you will be kind enough to consider yourselves, for the nonce, the influential,

distinguished, and fashionable American audience in New York, before which we had intended that this lecture should be read.

MR. SHARP'S CONNECTION WITH THE UNITED STATES.

The author would desire to claim some slight connexion with the United States through his relative Granville Sharp, the slave liberator, who was well known on this (American) side at the time of the War of Independence. At the commencement of the misunderstanding he was engaged in the Ordnance Department of the English Government. As he felt himself unable to participate in any way in the hostilities which appeared imminent, he obtained leave of absence. This was twice renewed, and, at last, when no hope remained of averting the collision, Granville resigned the post which he had held for eighteen years, and upon which he was dependent for his living, rather than take any share in that which he so heartily disapproved. The opinions which he held were sympathized in by many. Their number has progressively increased, until now there is hardly a Briton who does not feel that the course adopted by our Government towards America was a sad mistake which has now come to be sincerely and universally regretted.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN UNION.

Should the Anglo-American Union be perfected in the spirit which now animates the English speaking race throughout the world, it will probably have a more powerful and far-reaching influence than any event which has happened in the nineteenth century. Its social and political advantages can hardly be estimated; they cannot be described. And what has caused the reappearance of this feeling of attachment? Was it the somewhat unexpected discovery that the English people loved America? The smallest kindness to one who is in a position to appreciate it truly goes a long way. When others wished to deprive the United States of the rightful fruits of her recent struggle and completed victory, England simply frowned. It just meant that your cause is hers, that we are members one of the other, and the gesture was regarded as significant, and was not altogether without its influence. Similarity and uniformity are not essential attributes of union. The circumstances on the one side and the other may be wholly divergent, and the means employed by either to accomplish its ends may be altogether different. But here are fundamental beliefs, which we have in common. We worship the same ideals. We cherish the same aspirations. We are animated by the same hopes. Our Faith is one, though our fiscal systems may not be. We mostly prefer free trade and direct taxation. You, with your enormous areas and scattered populations, feel unable, at present, altogether to adopt this plan. Perhaps, by and bye, you may see fit to modify your tariff. In the meantime we must not allow these things to sever us. Moreover, we are assured that, in undertaking this recent war, you were engaged in the overthrow of oppression and of wrong, and that you are entitled to Cuba and the Philippines, as the fruit of your just, fair, and civilized contention.

THE SPANISH PLEA.

And does not the plea which the Spanish Government has put forward strengthen you in your appropriation? In effect what do they say? "We cannot resist you. We are helpless. No one will come to our aid. If you determine to rob us, you can take these Islands. We will not give them up to you, although we may be unable to keep them." Are they not self-convicted by this plea? What right has Spain to the possession of territories which she acknowledges her inability to effectively occupy, and the inhabitants of which she is unable to protect? The Government of these Islands, and the unjust exactions and oppressions inflicted upon the trade of Manila have, for decades past, been a scandal and disgrace; and the port authorities have been a terror to ship captains and their owners. The bad seed has, at last, brought forth bitter fruit, and the foreign traders and native merchants in China and Hongkong will rejoice to see the Stars and Stripes, as emblems of liberty and justice, floating from these battlements. At the same time we cannot forget the courtly

Spanish military officers whom we have occasionally met with in our travels.

AMERICA AND CHINA.

As we expect very shortly to see you firmly established in this lovely Southern group, we are prepared to cordially welcome you to the China Seas, and to invite you to Hongkong, only two days distant, which with its hinterland forms part of the enormous area so long ruled over by the "Son of Heaven," and the importance of which has only recently come to be at all regarded in the West. China, and its disposition, is now not only of interest to the foreign community dwelling in the Far East, but is the one salient matter of supreme importance forcing itself upon the attention of the world. So keenly is this appreciated that a reticence, and seriousness almost amounting to solemnity, is manifested by those occupying responsible positions when called upon to refer to it. This is in every way appropriate. The tone of the press is also guarded. It goes little beyond Ministerial utterances, whilst the expression of its opinions is kept well in hand. It may, however, be permissible for some who have knowledge and experience to speak less guardedly, provided they are truthful and sincere, and their motives are above suspicion.

THE APPROACHING CRISIS IN CHINA.

There cannot be the shadow of a doubt that we are approaching a crisis in Chinese affairs, of which the Governments of Europe and America are well aware. Those who lead public opinion have, in their recent pregnant though veiled utterances, given expression to this thought. The responsibilities of Britain and the United States have evidently not yet reached their limit. We may well contemplate the future with serious gravity. To-morrow's sun may dawn upon an altered world. One thing is clear and indisputable, viz., that we have not yet done with China; indeed it is probable that, in the future, we shall, as nations, have much more to do with China and the Chinese than we have ever had before.

PRAISE FOR THE CHINESE.

There may, therefore, be some who would be willing to know a little more of these people, amongst whom we have lived for forty years, engaged in banking and commercial pursuits. We have served them and been served by them. We have bought and sold and bargained with them, day by day, through this long period, and have necessarily some acquaintance with them. It gives the writer much pleasure to testify to their high mental qualities, and also, in very many cases, their goodness of heart. Most of our servants have been with us for many years. Some for a quarter of a century, indeed vacancies seldom occur except by death. Half-a-dozen grandchildren occupy the places of their parents formerly in our employ. The experience of many old established firms in China is the same. It must be acknowledged that this love of continuous and permanent employment compares very favourably with the discontent and constant seeking after change which characterizes service and labour in the Home Lands. There hang in our office two framed and glazed testimonials to the high character and faithful work of Wong Yick and Pun Woi, than whom, in their measure and degree, we have never known better or more useful men.

Many heartrending stories are told of piracy, murder, and pillage upon the China coast and its rivers. Until its recrudescence upon the West River this has been, in great measure, checked by the vigilance of those in command of British gunboats and by the severity, in earlier days, of the French naval authorities, who have taken an important part in its suppression, and it is now happily almost unknown. In this connexion we cannot forbear referring to three fishermen (alternatively Chinese pirates) by whom the captain of the British steamer *Thebes* was saved, together with the speaker and Mrs. Sharp. The steamer was chartered by the French Government to take troops and Admiralty stores from Hongkong to Touron, their first settlement in China. The captain had been ordered to make enquiries of the fishing boats in the bays respecting some Frenchmen who had been, just then, cast away. In carrying out this order a rock was touched. The Captain beached the steamer to prevent her sinking. Two Chinese junks were engaged to take us to

Hongkong. We went in the smaller, with the captain, steward, and a boy, the officers and crew in the larger, the French troops marching overland. We were presently overtaken by a terrible typhoon, which lasted over two days. Masts and bulwarks were all gone, and the rudder broken. The Chinese captain and his crew, thinking that death was near, went below, got some opium, and became insensible. Fortunately for us we had taken three Chinese firemen from the *Thebes*. These had been fishermen, and knew the coast. They therefore took charge of the junk, and handled it, as best they could, through the storm. The rudder was broken three times, and three times repaired. It was also found that only one of the three firemen could steer so as to save the rudder, by keeping a constant watch upon the waves, and easing off the wind, as they approached. The rain fell in torrential streams, without cessation, but this Chinese fireman stood firmly at the helm for six-and-thirty hours, without letting go his hold, the boy putting food between his lips. He saved our lives. He saved the junk, and was very handsomely rewarded. There could not have been a better proof of the skill, courage, and endurance of which these men are capable. The Chinese are economical to a fault—if a fault is possible in this direction—and one who possesses \$100,000 may lunch upon a penny or less, but they can also be liberal and even generous. Dr. Colquhoun, in his recent work, "China in Transformation," refers to a case which happened in Canton, when one of the Howquas inquired of an elderly American merchant, who had been transacting a very large tea business in earlier days, but upon whom misfortune had come, why he did not go home. He replied that nothing would delight him more, but that he could not feel happy in leaving China whilst Howqua retained so heavy an unpaid claim upon him. Howqua thereupon opened his safe, took out the note, and tearing it in pieces, threw them into the waste paper basket exclaiming "There! I have now no further claim upon you." This action was not alone a proof of Howqua's generosity, but also of his high estimation of the character of the American merchant, whom he had long known, and who was also known to us, and whose heavy obligation he cancelled so handsomely. Spending six months in the Australian colonies some years ago, we had a good opportunity of enquiring into and investigating the character of the Chinese there, and were gratified to find that of the seven classes into which the population was divided, in the statistical office of the Government, the Chinese stood the first and highest for morality and law-abiding character. We spent most of our time in efforts to alleviate the down trodden position of these people, and on leaving to return to Hongkong they presented us with a bag of sovereigns to pay our expenses, and in proof of their gratitude for what we had done, or tried to do, in their behalf.

OUR DIFFICULTIES WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

It appears that Ministers, Members of Parliament, and people generally are very imperfectly prepared to realise the true cause of all our difficulties with the Chinese Government. These have attended our negotiations from the earliest days of our intercourse, and have been gradually increasing with our trade, and especially during the last fifty years, since Lord Napier was worried to death at Macao, and Hongkong was ceded to the British Government. Throughout this period a variety of causes, but principally the advent and perfecting of the telegraph, and the marvellous growth of the interest taken by European nations in the Far East, have caused our communications with China to be much more frequent and very greatly more important. The difficulty has mainly arisen from the antagonisms between the British and Chinese character. The instinct and impulse of a Briton or an American is to speak the truth, and in these days, in commercial and social intercourse, untruth is happily exceptional. On the other hand, the first impulse of a Chinese is to tell a lie, and if it comes at all, the truth comes afterwards, upon his assurance that he is not in danger. An unknown foreigner enquiring hurriedly for a Chinese would be met, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, by the statement that he was away, whilst the speaker well knew that he was up-

stairs. The spirit of truth and integrity is interwoven with the American and British character. We have learned to trust one another, because we see these principles plainly written on the faces of the men and women with whom, in these privileged lands, we have to do. So large indeed is the proportion of honest men in these countries that those whose business is very widely spread find it to their advantage to trust great numbers. Very extensive means exist for ascertaining the position of purchasers, and these are constantly made use of. Here also the principle of mutual reliance comes in, as the trade transactions, in the absence of personal knowledge, are made upon the statements of others, which are regarded as authoritative and reliable. Upon this personal knowledge, and these confidential opinions, a large proportion of the enormous trade of Britain and the United States, amounting to thousands of millions sterling, is annually conducted. This is the very life and soul of commerce, and it prevails, to a very large extent, among the higher classes of Chinese traders, and many of the shopkeepers as well. It is very satisfactory to be able to speak thus of the Chinese People. Would that we could say as much for the Government officials who rule over them! In considering their character, we are filled with wonder and amazement that, under such extremely unfavourable example and influence, the Chinese people are what they are, indeed that they have any good in them at all.

CHINA'S NATIONAL DECADENCE.

For all practical purposes, China, as a nation, is non-existent at the present time. She has neither cohesion nor character. She is decayed and utterly corrupt, and her Government can only be purified by a fiery ordeal. The "integrity of China" is entirely a misnomer. There is no such thing. It is therefore idle to dream, talk, and write of its preservation. Neither is reinstatement, restoration, or amendment possible. There is no foundation, there are no chief materials which might be employed. The people are unprepared, the rulers and literati are absolutely and wholly worthless. The vision of Isaiah the prophet concerning Judah and Jerusalem may well be applied to China. "The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot, even unto the head, there is no soundness in it, but wounds and bruises and putrifying sores, they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment. Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire, your land, strangers devour it in your presence." No doubt there are as bad men to be found in London and New York as in Peking, the Yangtze Valley, or Hunan, but there are more good men in Britain and America than in China. Our public men, our political leaders, our official class are generally distinguished for honour and integrity. Our Court is pure. Our Judges are altogether above and beyond even the slightest shadow of suspicion; whereas in China there is probably not one in ten thousand of the officials who is trusted by his fellow men. The Lord Chancellor was right in the expression, at the recent banquet to the Lord Mayor, in London, of his belief "that there is nothing which dissociates men, and drives nations to madness so quickly and so efficiently, as the belief that justice in the country is not honestly and impartially administered."

IS THE MANCHU DYNASTY WORTH PRESERVING?

The earnest enquiry is forced upon the attention of civilised nations: Is the present Manchu Dynasty, and its administration in the Chinese Empire worth preserving? The difficulties of this task, which has been mainly assumed by the British Government, are constantly increasing. China has existed hitherto almost exclusively by her absolute isolation. This is becoming day by day more impossible. As a result of greatly increased means of communication, and the eager competition of Western nations, China's people are awakening, and are growing impatient at the bonds in which they have been so long confined. To restrain them further will presently be found even beyond European power. Whilst we say hard things of China's rulers, we must always remember they are the victims of a vicious system, which

probably dates from the very commencement of the Manchu Dynasty; and, considering its inherent weakness, the wonder and the marvel is that it has not fallen to pieces long ago. Notwithstanding the consistent and painstaking efforts of Britain during the last half century to preserve, what has been called, her "integrity," China is regarded by the world at large as derelict. Her dismemberment must shortly come to pass, whether by agreement among the Powers or otherwise, and in the serious opinion of very many who know most about it, the sooner this happens the better for all, including the Chinese themselves. What is on the lips of everyone cannot be unknown to those in authority; and however its expression may be veiled behind pleasant conventionalities, the time cannot be far off when this fact must be clearly enunciated by our Ministers, and the conduct of our Governments be shaped accordingly. Lord Palmerston truly said that there were few able to foresee the consequences of events which had not happened. We may cherish the full confidence, however, that these things are not hidden from our Prime Minister, or the President of the United States, and that our Governments are well prepared for all eventualities.

FOREIGN CONTROL.

The vision carries, but it indicates the forecast that China, in her length and breadth, from Peking and Tientsin in the North to Hankow and Shanghai in the middle, and to Canton and Hongkong in the South, will shortly be brought entirely and absolutely under the power and control of the European Nations, America, and Japan. To this end the principle of the "sphere of influence" is but a prelude, and occupation, the sequent, natural and unavoidable. And is any justification needed? It would appear that the British Government recognises the necessity. And who can dare to blame their conscientiousness?

LORD SALISBURY'S DIPLOMACY.

Lord Salisbury's diplomacy was formerly severely criticised, and the opinion was freely expressed that British interests in China were being sacrificed. We believe that the course which has been followed has been dictated by the highest principles. There is not one of those best informed who would be quite willing to undertake, without hesitation, the difficult and responsible duties of the Prime Minister, who claims our admiration for the judicial spirit in which foreign relations are considered and discussed. The *Times* lately expressed the idea, in connexion with this subject, that it was infinitely better to suffer wrong than to do it, and better far to be deceived by the cunning of another than ever to suspect, and so lose confidence in human nature. It is our national love of justice and of right which has restrained the advance of our policy in China, and we cannot believe that God, in his good providence, will permit us, as a nation, to suffer from this cause. There are sometimes considerations even higher than law, and better than abstract justice and absolute consistency. Before taking action, we may ask ourselves, Are we quite sure of our motives? Are we actuated by the fear of God, and is our object the good of men? Can we sincerely ask God's blessing on fresh enterprise, and with confidence expect it? If it be so, then we can go forward without fear.

CHINESE HAIL FOREIGN INTERVENTION WITH DELIGHT.

Is not the knowledge that the Chinese people are prepared to hail our intervention with delight, and to welcome the advent of the Anglo-Saxon race with open arms, a most important factor? Have not the hundreds of millions of Chinese victims of misrule and oppression a very strong claim upon the sympathy and power of Britain and America, and may not the words which were spoken to Queen Esther of old be reverentially addressed to the President of the United States and to our beloved Sovereign Empress, whose quick sympathy and ready help are ever going forth to aid the grief-stricken and those who have no helper:—"Who knowest whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" Does not the down-trodden condition of the people demand redress?

CHINA'S SORROW.

The brief paragraph, which appeared in the *London Standard* of the 9th of November informing us that "China's sorrow" had again broken her banks, may be read almost in a breath, but who can comprehend the misery of this announcement? From the wasted fields of the delta of the Yellow River, at this moment, the agonising national cry of tens of starving millions goes up to heaven, "save life!" Can we stop our ears? Can we refuse to listen? These millions of laborious families, whose work is ruined and their lives destroyed by periodically recurrent preventable calamity, call upon the civilised world to deliver them from their cruel bondage.

THE SQUEEZE SYSTEM.

What hope is there depicted in a Chinese face? To what can he possibly look forward? Is he successful? All his ingenuity must be employed to conceal the fact. Does he, by constant labour and the closest economy, accumulate a little pile, it is ever in danger of being filched or scattered by official greed and rapacity. His drops are watched and noted, his pig accounted; and a poor man is afraid even to repair his house, or mend a fence, lest he attract the attention of the tax gatherer, ever on watch for the slightest indication of circumstances which would warrant an increased demand. And the officials themselves, with their dishonest gains, more in fear than the people, ever dreading being denounced by some jealous, because less successful rival. Every one frantically striving to gather in his dollars as quickly as possible during the brief period for which he is permitted to retain his office of "grand thief." The law courts a scandal and disgrace. Promotion purchased. Every one bought and sold. An Empire in ruins! Not a good road or a tidy village in it. Everything in disrepair. No drainage or sanitation. Engineering works, native hospitals, medicine and surgery unknown. Native education, as we regard it, nowhere. "Truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter."

ABSENCE OF HOPE OF REFORMATION.

And whence can we derive any hope of reformation? There is no such thing as public opinion in China. All the influence of the Government has been repressive, and, as a consequence, ninety-nine out of every hundred are only careful for the day's work, the day's wage, and the day's provision. To all else they are supremely indifferent. This is the result of ages of misrule. From whence then can the hope of any change for the better spring? There is no levée of good. No good seed is forthcoming. What hope can any one cherish of the reformation of a man who, being entitled to draw a salary of five thousand dollars, manages to pocket one hundred thousand? There is no limit to extortion, save the fear of organised rebellion. The lust of unjust gain grows upon that whereon it feeds. Like the burglar, the Chinese official's only anxiety is to fill his pockets, and escape to another post, in a district far removed, where the hatred and the curses of the people cannot follow him. Is there then no hope of improvement. None whatever, "For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes." Let us suppose for a moment the possibility of renovation, of a change for the better in the opinion of the people, and even in the character of a few of their rulers, such as that lately manifested by the young Emperor. What would then be the position of the millions of officials, actual and expectant, and their retinues and hangers on, from the highest downwards? The wealth of many of these men is fabulous? And how has it been obtained? Neither in trade, manufacture nor in speculation, but by robbery, official dishonesty being sanctioned and condoned by the false public opinion which prevails. Were this reversed, all these men would be disgraced. How then can they welcome the advent in their land of a new spirit of truth and uprightness?

FALSE HOPES.

Some time ago it seemed to many that a new era had dawned for China. The advocates of reform had gained the sympathy of the Emperor. Sir Claude Macdonald had succeeded in obtaining the banishment from the Tsungli Yamen of Li Hung-chang. Several important edicts had been published in the interests of progress,

Suddenly all this is reversed. The Empress Dowager returns to power. The reforming Emperor is reduced to a nullity. The enemy of Sir Nicholas O'Connor is brought back to the Yamen, and Li Hung-chang, the foe of all British interest in China, although nominally sent elsewhere, is again in the ascendant. The principal reformers lose their heads, and a reign of terror may be said to have begun in the Capital like to the Spanish Inquisition. If any improvement is to be forthcoming in Chinese official character, it would appear impossible that it can be spontaneous. It must be from without and not from within. It must be grafted on by Foreign influences, and out of this sour and crabbed stock may come forth sweet and valuable fruit.

THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE CHINESE PEOPLE AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

The essential and wide distinction between the Chinese people and the Chinese Government cannot be stated too forcibly; and this is one of the most important facts to be borne in mind in all discussions about China. We have some maxims which seem to contradict the possibility of this. If so, then it must ever be remembered that China is full, nay is made up, of contradictions and anomalies. The people are mostly honest, steady, dutiful, and hard working. Moore, the philanthropist, said he would not give much for a young man who could not, upon occasion, work sixteen hours out of twenty four. The Chinese workman, if it please him, will do twenty hours. The officials, on the other hand, are abominably, incorrigibly, hopelessly slothful and corrupt. Naturally we are inclined to turn aside from this most sad anomaly, and seek our pleasure in the contemplation of a brighter picture, but are we not rather bound to attempt to share with others the blessings of firm and honest government under which, by God's good providence, we live? I say emphatically, by God's good providence. Do any suppose that it is our own arm or our own sword that has gotten us all this wealth? Who strengthened our hands and weakened others arms? Who gave us the "power to get wealth?" We answer unhesitatingly that it is all in consequence of the favour which God has had towards our nations. And why? Because there are more of His servants among us than there are among some other people. Are we not thus under heavy obligations? Have we not herein large responsibilities? We believe that these are only limited by our national power and means, and that, within that measure, we are not only justified, but called upon to govern those who are misgoverned, and, if need be, for the good of the inhabitants, and, in so far as in us lies, with the concurrence, if obtainable, of others, to occupy, protect, and administer their lands, appropriating every dollar which those lands yield to the advancement and well being of their people.

WHO IS TO LEAD?

None will follow those who will not lead. Who is to lead? What are the essential qualifications? Courage, knowledge, power, resource, altruism. Do we possess these? Are we, as nations, the best fitted for the work? Do the results of past experience lead us on? Are we entitled to entertain the courage resulting from success? Are we, in the main, disinterested and actuated by righteous motives? Do the present circumstances of the United States and the British and the Chinese Empires call for action on our part? Is the moment favourable? Is there not a wonderful consensus of opinion? Are not our peoples very much at one, and quite prepared to support their governments? Does it not appear clear that necessity is laid upon us in this matter? We do not want any of these provinces for ourselves, but we require to share the trade of all with the whole world. This for us is absolutely indispensable. It is possible that the policy which has successfully retained this for us during the last half century, may not be found equal to keeping it for next. The old Home land has been long established in this colonising business. The British occupation of India has answered. Egypt and the Suez Canal Investment have answered. Africa is answering. You have made a good start with Hawaii, Cuba, and the Philippines. The several responsibilities have been met, if not yet altogether fulfilled. And why should you not

succeed as well as we have done? We are now in a much stronger position than we were half a century ago. We must advance or retire. A stationary position is untenable for us. The old saw "nothing venture, nothing have" is fitting and appropriate to our cases. May we not then suitably go forward? Are we really able to do this? The Chinese in many of the provinces would welcome us with joy.

THE PROGRAMME.

The present system of Government, which has some valuable features, might be, in part, continued. The Royal Family would, of course, be provided for. The present Viceroys, Governors, and Mandarins, in a large number of cases, might be retained in office at salaries adequate to their value and position. The system of squeezing and robbery must be wholly stopped, and a plan of watchful and exacting check adopted, by which the revenue would be enormously increased. There is, at present, a large staff of European and American Chinese-speaking men and women, who, together with trustworthy natives, who have been in foreign employ, might afford most valuable aid. The people are easily governed, and have a reverence for the just administration of the law.

DANGER OF REBELLION.

Owing to the total absence of all sense of attachment to the Dynasty, the chief and most serious danger which has to be reckoned with in the transformation of China, is that of widespread and uncontrollable rebellion. The effect of this would be the speedy and serious loss of population, without which the country would be valueless. The element of danger arising from rebellion against the rule of the present dynasty is ever present, and irremovable. The disaffection is universal and its destructive forces may be developed, within a brief space, over wide areas distant from the coast. In view of this undoubted fact, ought we to be satisfied with keeping a large, even a very large and costly fleet of war vessels in the China seas? Should we be content to go on just as we have since the beginning of the century, with treaties and negotiations, now that we are well aware of the absolute worthlessness and helplessness of the Chinese Government? Whilst keeping vigilantly on the look-out for means to preserve our indispensable commerce upon the rivers and the coast, may we not also have some regard to the interests of China's millions?

THE VOICE OF THE LITTLE ENGLANDER.

Conflicting views are still held upon the matter of intervention in these affairs. The voice of the "Little Englander" is occasionally heard, together with the statement that we, as a nation, have already as much to do as we can manage properly. At the same time, notwithstanding the great, and ever increasing, demand of the Government upon the highly educated class in Britain, to which Lord Salisbury recently referred, there seems to be an unfailing supply of suitable men to meet it.

THE SECURITY FOR CHINA'S BONDS.

Our national prudence and caution are intensified by China's heavy obligations to us, leading to groundless fears of possible loss from her disintegration. It is overlooked that the security for Chinese Bonds is the Chinese Empire, rather than its present Manchu Government; hence the desire to preserve the *status quo* which is full of hazard. To this end it is influentially recommended that efforts should be made to strengthen the Central Government, whose weakness endangers her ability to observe treaty obligations. Does not past experience prove that these are endangered as much by China's imagined strength as by her real weakness? When any limb or portion of the body corporate is absolutely corrupt, we do not apply anodynes or administer tonics, but recognize that the only way of dealing successfully with the case is by excision or amputation.

THE YELLOW TERROR.

Were the present Government of China to become thoroughly Europeanized, and potentially instructed in the arts of war, as some kindly enthusiasts have lately recommended, the yellow terror, as described by Lord Wolseley, might possibly become something more substantial than a myth. We do not seek to strengthen the wild and blood seeking carnivora, and we place our heel on objects which we know are dangerous. Why then

should we cherish and nurse into warmth and activity a power against which we have long learned to be ever on our guard, and whose only approach to European civilisation has been manifested by a desire to possess armaments, which, it is quite possible, may be used against us, when, in her fickle policy, it may appear opportune to do so?

CO-OPERATION OF THE POWERS.

No one single nation can, unaided, safely undertake to mould the transformation of the Chinese Empire, and its reformation under a strong, true, enlightened government; but Great Britain and the United States, with the assistance of Germany and Japan, might venture it. Were this undertaken, it is probable that European sympathy would not be withheld, as the world would know that any advantage gained would be for the good of all. Whether the present Government continues or is superseded, railways are essential to the maintenance of order. China cannot build these; they must be constructed for her, with foreign capital. Lord Charles Beresford, as representing the Associated Chambers of Commerce in England, has stated at Singapore, on 24th September, and subsequently at Hongkong and Shanghai, that he "desires to see adequate security in China for invested capital." Without such security we may well be assured that British and American money will not be forthcoming. Russia has found that a measure of occupation is essential for the preservation of the safety of her works. It is certain that we also shall find the same. Indeed, in England a like need has been of late very sadly demonstrated. A thousand miles of railway in China will, at first, require the constant presence of from five to ten thousand men in the near neighbourhood and along the line. There can be no advantage in concealing this. The arrangement is essential, and without it no concession can be of the smallest value. If joint occupation with other Powers can be arranged it would be best. A very large contingent from European and English speaking peoples will be required in China if the control and Government is to fall on them. There will be work for all, and all must work together. All must similarly share in the assumption of China's obligations, and in the labour of increasing the means of meeting them, so soon as a harmonious plan of the respective "spheres" is agreed upon. Then it may be found expedient that twenty-five thousand boys and girls be set to work in Britain, the United States, and Germany to learn Chinese, whilst twice as many in China may be instructed in English and the other European languages.

OPENINGS FOR ENGLISH SPEAKING PEOPLES AND THEIR MONEY.

In all likelihood, very shortly there would be openings for the profitable employment of one hundred thousand English speaking people, and one hundred millions sterling of their money. The British and American share in all this provision must, anyway, be very large; but our resources are large; and the spirit of the race will go forth in support of the effort, if the claim should be laid upon it. The inducement on our side is to preserve and extend the large portion of the trade which we have long enjoyed; on that of the United States to develop the trade with China which they at this time possess, and to obtain access to the limitless markets which their growing manufacturing skill and power so well qualify them to supply. The weight of obligation in the matter rests equally upon us both, according to our strength and resources to help those who are in need.

THE BOND BETWEEN THE OLD COUNTRY AND THE STATES.

On the 25th of September, at the celebration of the relief of Lucknow, the Rev. Canon Duckworth said:—"Across the Atlantic there was a kindred people, one in mind and speech with us, who throbbed to the pulse of our life and held the names of those who founded our liberties, and shed lustre on our art and literature, in almost as grateful remembrance as we ourselves could claim. This bond between the Old Country and the New World was stronger far than any formal alliance; there could be no firmer or surer pledge of union than that which lay in so great a partnership." The Rev.

Canon chose a good word. A partnership presupposes business to be carried on by united efforts for mutual advantage. The common object strengthens and cements the union. The object of the Anglo-American League is stated in words at once terse and forcible, viz: "Considering that the peoples of the British Empire and of the United States of America are closely allied in blood, inherit the same literature and laws, hold the same principles of self government, recognize the same ideal of freedom and humanity in the guidance of their national policy, and are drawn together by strong common interests in many parts of the world, every effort should be made, in the interests of civilization and peace, to secure the most cordial and constant co-operation between the two nations."

THEIR MUTUAL DEPENDENCE.

One other reason might have been well added in eight words—"being mutually dependent the one upon the other." And let this truth be tautologically told, because it is one of vital importance to us both. God has made us dependent upon food, for His wise purposes. He might have made us just as easily without this need. Comparatively few Englishmen are very hungry to-day but we should most of us be so in three months, if no wheat came to England from the United States. God has scattered His gifts that His creatures should be well employed in their gathering and distribution, and should thus be led to recognize not only their dependence upon Him, the Great First Cause, but also upon one another.

AMERICA'S CORN.

What was it which bridged the gulf and healed the sad breach in the Patriarch Jacob's family, and reunited them after long years of separation? The pinch of hunger, the pressure of their need. "There is corn in Egypt," exclaimed the aged Father; and off the ten brothers quickly went with their asses and their empty sacks. Their eyes were holden that they could not see the white flag which their leader carried. Their Brother saw it presently, and sought a place where he could weep! "I am Joseph, doth my Father yet live? I am Joseph, your Brother whom ye sold into Egypt." Mark the magnanimity of the puissant Ruler—"Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither, for God did send me before you to preserve life. And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance, so now it was not you that sent me hither, but God." Hark! Can we not hear the sweet soothing tones of Joseph's voice, mingling with the passionate sobs of ten strong men, upon their knees before him? What a reunion! The family tie had been rudely snapped asunder. The pieces were now brought together. The spirit of love and forgiveness, like the furnace blast, raised the metal to a whiter heat, and the pressure of necessity, like the join in the continuous rail, made the junction the strongest portion in the line, as a re-joined rope is strongest at the splice. Did not God's spirit send forth those faithful and laborious pilgrims and pioneers who first left our land to till the broad plains across the Atlantic Ocean? And was it not in care for us, the children of those whom they left behind? Did He not also help us first to find and use the iron, with which we, in exchange for corn, supplied their wants; until, by and bye, they found iron enough for themselves, and to spare for us?

Mountains interposed (and seas uncrossed),
Make enemies of nations which had else
Like kindred drops, been mingled into one.

IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS.

How very much we owe to the increased facilities of communication which we now possess. We have just crossed the Atlantic in your magnificent *St. Paul*, of which Philadelphia may well be proud. It would seem that the development of means is permitted just in proportion to our disposition to make profitable use of our contact. The *White Star* liner of 17,000 tons must now be approaching completion. (Indeed she is now already launched). We have not yet repeated Brunel's grand *Leviathan* of twenty thousand tons, but the *New Oceanic*, with her forty thousand horse-power, leaves the *Great Eastern*, with six thousand only, very far behind. The marvellous growth of these means of communication is very striking; there would

appear to be no limit to them. May they go on and prosper? Physiologists tell us that love comes of contact. How many unions, tender and strong, have been formed between the dwellers upon opposite sides of the broad Atlantic! May all these, like silken cords, stretched across her bosom, bind us together yet more strongly day by day.

MR. SHARP ADMONISHES THE AMERICANS.

We would say to Americans: God has given you a limitless area of cultivable land, immense mechanical resources to prepare for, sow, reap, bind, garner, and distribute corn. These are the admiration of the world. You can indefinitely increase your cultivated area, as the growing needs of the world's population shall increase; and meanwhile smile at our anxiety to appropriate the forces of your Niagara for the preparation of chemical manures, wherewith to quicken our narrow English fields, which we may learn to use more profitably than in growing corn. Yours is the grainery—the granary of the earth. You, one of the younger branches of the human family, have been made the arbiters of its food supply; and so, when the younger child of the patriarch was cast out, God gave into his hands all the corn in the valley of the Nile. His brethren, who had cruelly injured him, were overtaken by famine. They knew not that God was working out of this hard need the reconciliation of the family. And by whom was this first initiated? By the one who had received the greatest injury! He seeks to anticipate the self-accusation of his brethren, and to disarm it by suggesting that their action was in accordance with the will of God. Let this disposition to conceal or lessen the faults of others more distinguish us. You have gone according to your yearly wont, to revisit the Home Land. There is hardly a true American who does not so esteem it. Many come to England to admire our Cathedrals and our Picture Galleries, others to see our green fields, with their daisies and buttercups, our hedgerows, our ivy covered churches, and sweet smelling violets—all this year, sadly withered by the drought. Others enjoy our quiet cultivated homes. Many seek for their blood relatives, connexions, friends, and acquaintances. One and another, like Joseph, will ask, "And your Father, the old man of whom ye spake, is he yet alive?" And "Is this the younger brother of whom ye spake to me?" and, laying hand upon the curly hair, exclaim, with reverence, "God be gracious unto thee my son." And as the memories of past years crowd into his heart, he may likewise seek a place to weep. God sent Joseph to Egypt, and you to America, to preserve life. You want us, and we want you still more. You can do without our gold, we cannot do without your wheat. You have indeed most of the corn, coal, iron, steel, and economical land transport. We have some iron, coal financial business methods, credit, and ships. Each has a pre-eminence. Each has something to share with the other. Should safe convoy be required, either will go more than half way to see the other home; and a more powerful foe will have to reckon with two instead of one.

PUBLIC OPINION IN FAVOUR OF UNION.

Public opinion on both sides of the Atlantic is growing strongly, not only towards closer union amongst the several portions of the British Empire, but also towards a closer union between the English speaking nations. Mr. Chamberlain has declared publicly his belief that agreements are only made valid by the strength of a common interest. This is true undoubtedly. It is also true that British and American interests are, in many things, identical. We are united by similar sentiments, kindred beliefs, and by a reverence and love for the Creator and Redeemer of the world. During the last two years we have enjoyed the opportunity of seeing something of American and Canadian society. The change of feeling which has come over the Anglo-American relations is most remarkable, and its importance, in the interests of peace, is beyond all calculation. We are drawing closer by a clearer recognition of the necessities of our several positions. Let our reconciliation be as complete as that in the Patriarch's family. Let all evil thinking and evil speaking be for ever at an end between us; and let us continue to emulate one another in good works. May the bright colours of your Stars and Stripes,

placed side by side with our Union Jack, form a coruscation of light and beauty whose abiding splendour shall attract the attention of the world, and let there be behind them a power for good and for the truth; a power for the overthrow of evil, oppression, misgovernment and wrong; a power for peace on earth and good will toward men, such as the world has never known since that bright Galilean day when the Prince of Peace closed his mission to this earth, and ascended in golden clouded glory to His God. And he shall come again. May he find these two grand nations standing fast in the faith, and waiting for him, when he shall prepare to serve those who have so waited, and who shall be permitted to sit down at the marriage supper of the Lamb. We may conclude with a line from the American Hymnal, which we sang on board your steamer *St. Paul* on Sunday morning last:—

We are not divided, all one body, we,
One in hope and doctrine, one in charity."

Colonel EVATT observed that at that late hour of the evening he feared there was no time for a discussion on Mr. Granville Sharp's very interesting paper. Mr. Sharp was one of their representative men. He had lived among them for 40 years. He knew Hongkong thoroughly, and he supposed there was no man who could come forward and speak from a stronger position than he. Personally he in some ways differed from Mr. Sharp as regarded his pessimistic views about China, but of course his knowledge was nothing as compared to Mr. Sharp's. He, however, had seen and knew the improvement effected by England in India. Mr. Sharp spoke about the corruption in China and the many drawbacks connected with that country, but to understand China was to forgive China. She was placed in a peculiar position. She was far removed from western influence, and he thought the fact that she existed at all was a sign that she could not be so worthless as some people would have them believe. She still governed an enormous part of the world. Her provinces were still keeping together. She had seen every empire that existed in this world rise. There was not a power which existed but was of mushroom growth beside her. He had not the slightest fear himself for China's future. (Hear, hear.) With Mr. Sharp's remarks as to an American and English alliance he agreed most heartily. Every cause in the past which kept them separate had been removed. There were men in that room whose grandfathers were shot down in the revolutionary war. They forgave that shooting down, and thanked God that the righteous cause won. As regarded the question of corn, he was not very much up in it, but he thought he might say that they thanked Mr. Granville Sharp for his very interesting address, and though he did not agree with him on some points he begged to thank him in their name for what he had done for them. (Applause).

The meeting then separated.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

HALF-YEARLY MEETING.

On Saturday at noon the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held in the City Hall under the chairmanship of the Hon. J. J. Bell Irving, the other directors present being Messrs. R. M. Gray (the new chairman), B. Shewan, N. A. Siebs, A. Haupt, A. McConachie, D. Gubby, C. Beermann, R. H. Hill, A. J. Raymond and P. Sachse. There were also present Messrs. Thos. Jackson (Chief Manager), V. A. C. Hawkins, G. de Champeaux, G. Murray Bain, G. C. Cox, J. H. Cox, G. Stewart, Hon. C. P. Chater, A. G. Stokes, G. H. Potts, D. Landale, W. Ramsey, A. Findlay Smith, F. Henderson, J. Orange, F. D. Goddard, J. D. Hutchison, J. C. Peter, A. Coutts, D. Gillies, A. Tillett, C. A. Tones, C. S. Sharp, J. H. Lewis, K. A. Chinoy, C. J. Gonsalves, J. R. Michael, E. S. Whealler, E. S. Kelly, B. Layton, J. M. Alves, D. D. Sugden, W. Lysaught, C. W. May, A. S. Anton, Lau Wei Chuan, Sham Kun Sai, etc.

Mr. JACKSON read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN read the report, which we have already published. The shareholders showed

that they were well satisfied with it by frequent applause.

The CHAIRMAN then said—Gentlemen, on the last occasion when we had the pleasure of meeting you here, I referred to the profits still in hand on loans previously issued, and stated that they would be dealt with at the end of the then current year. The accounts now presented include such profits and with the amount carried forward from the previous half year of \$376,916.76, make the grand total of \$4,392,189.66 available for division on the 31st December last. (Applause.) During recent prosperous times we have adhered to a dividend of £1 5s. per share and added large amounts to the reserve fund. We now propose to add 10 lacs to that fund, making it up to ten millions of dollars, and having done so we came to the conclusion that the shareholders deserved to participate in the large profits earned. (Applause.) After much thought, we decided to propose an increase in the dividend to £1 10s. per share, and you may rely upon it, gentlemen, that we would not have taken such a step if we had not seen every reasonable likelihood of our ability to continue a similar distribution in the future. (Applause.) The profits derived from the exceptional sources previously alluded to give us great pleasure in recommending that a bonus of £1 per share be paid on the present occasion. (Applause.) The directors appreciate the encouragement they have received from the shareholders in their wish to make the reserve fund equal to the capital of the bank—a task now happily accomplished. The balance sheet does not show in full how the reserve fund is invested. You are aware that the books of our London Office close on the 30th of April and 31st of October each half-year; therefore we could not respond to entries made subsequent to the latter date. I now proceed to inform you how the ten millions of reserve are invested:—The £250,000 2½ per cent. Consols lodged with the Bank of England as a special reserve we let remain at 96 and Ex. of 2/6=\$1,900,000; we have increased our holdings of Consols irrespective of the said £250,000 to £522,500, written down to 96 and Ex. of 2/=\$4,702,500; we have also in London in first class sterling securities £347,500 standing in our books at £339,750 at 2/=\$3,397,500. The amount required to write down Consols to 90 and Ex. of 2/- we have deducted from earnings during the past half-year. As to what we intend to do with regard to the reserve fund in the future, we have the will, and I hope your future directors will be given the power, to go on adding to it. A bank's reserve cannot be too large, and I feel sure such a course will continue to commend itself to shareholders. (Applause.) The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has a very large portion of the China, Japan, and Straits business falling to its share, and the more money it has, whether under the heading of capital or reserve fund, the more satisfactorily will it fulfil the duties and responsibilities of its position. Referring to the various items in the balance sheet, it will be noticed that on the 31st of December notes in circulation exceeded the old limit of ten millions by \$2,505,537 against a deposit of \$3,250,000 with the Hongkong Government as per contra in terms of Hongkong Ordinance No. 6 of 1898. The elastic note circulation granted to us under that Ordinance has proved to be a great convenience to the public. When the Straits Government commence their note circulation (expected in April of this year) it is probable that only under very exceptional circumstances will it be necessary for us to go beyond the old limit of ten millions of dollars. Our current accounts in silver show an increase of \$7,784,600. Current accounts in gold show a decrease of \$5,387,380 owing to the withdrawal of Government balances temporarily in our possession. They now stand at £1,219,604. Cash in hand is much smaller than it was on the last occasion when we had such heavy liabilities in current accounts. Fixed deposits in silver show an increase of \$1,555,520. Fixed deposits in gold show an increase of £381,075. We have recently reduced our rate on twelve months fixed deposits in London from 4 to 3½ per cent. per annum. We made the alteration when the Bank of England rate was reduced to three per cent. Bills payable show a decrease of \$2,701,183. Bills receivable are less by \$3,785,077. Bills discounted, loans, and credits

show a falling off of \$23,184,698. This reduction is due to the fact that we had not so much floating money to lend on short loans in the London market owing to the withdrawal of Government funds above alluded to which had been temporarily left with us. With the large surplus at our disposal we have thought it desirable to suggest writing \$500,000 off bank premises account. The very fine premises we possess at the head office and branches after the above entry is passed will stand in our books at the nominal sum of \$257,648. This is one of the most satisfactory items connected with the affairs of the bank. Writing down unproductive accounts such as premises, dead stock, etc., simply means giving us all the more capital to employ in our ordinary business. It has fallen to the lot of very few banks to be so happily placed in this respect as we are. We are still busy in the matter of loans. We have recently floated one for \$2,300,000 on satisfactory terms for this bank, and we have reason to hope that more business of a similar nature will follow. The efforts of the staff, which have contributed to the satisfactory results now put before you, your directors have recognised by granting a bonus of twenty per cent. on their salaries, a course which, I am sure, you will fully approve. (Hear, hear.) One word on the political outlook, but at the present time it is impossible to consider the one apart from the other. Without venturing to prophesy, it may be said that the disturbance set up in the political atmosphere by the events of which the Far East during the last eighteen months has been the theatre, shows signs of subsiding. China will find herself forced more and more to allow foreign capital and enterprise to undertake the task of developing the great natural resources of the Empire. The elements of wealth she possesses in abundance, but her need is for capital to develop them. This the great capital owning nations of the world will be ready to supply, and they will have a common interest in the maintenance of the integrity of China. As these great capital owning nations are also the great manufacturing nations whose pressing desire is markets, they have a further incentive to uphold the principle of the open door for trade. As regards the Philippines, it is much to be regretted that a peaceful solution of the question at issue between the Americans and the natives had not been arrived at; still we are not without hope that some amicable arrangement will be come to, and these wonderfully fertile islands embark on a fresh era of prosperity. We have come through the late troubles without loss, and the thanks of the shareholders are due to the staff there for the manner in which they behaved during most difficult and trying times. In relinquishing the chairmanship of this bank it is my privilege as it has been that of my predecessors during many years, to bear testimony to the great confidence your directors have in the management under the able and experienced guidance of our present chief manager, who you will be all gratified to learn has undertaken to continue in his present responsible post for a further term of years. (Applause.)

No questions were asked, and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

Mr. D. GILLIES, in seconding, said—Gentlemen, we have met with pleasure on many similar occasions to this one to receive from our esteemed Chairman a statement of the progress made by the Bank during the past half year and his comments on the results of the half-year's working. I am sure, gentlemen, you will all most readily admit that we have never at any previous half-yearly meeting received a statement of our financial affairs so very carefully elucidated and so very highly satisfactory. (Applause.) The enormous amount now placed to the credit of the profit and loss account is a perfect monument of the skill and sagacity of our management—(hear, hear)—and the large amount that is now placed at the credit of the reserve fund shows us that a great deal of care, anxiety and assiduity must have been exercised to bring that amount up to the magnitude at which it now stands, and great credit and praise are due not only to the Chief Manager but to the members of the Board for their praiseworthy assistance to him in attaining that most honourable result. (Applause.) Safety is a well-known axiom in

banking affairs, and I am sure, gentlemen, you will all admit that this very wise policy has been very carefully followed in the management of our affairs, otherwise we should not be in that very satisfactory position in which we find ourselves to-day. Our Chairman has touched so very fully on all matters of interest connected with the Bank that I think it quite unnecessary for me to detain you longer in comments on what he has just told us. I will, therefore, content myself with most cordially seconding the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

The motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. J. H. LEWIS, seconded by Mr. J. HUTCHISON, the appointment of Mr. R. H. Hill as a director was confirmed, and Messrs. C. Beurmann, A. J. Raymond, and David Gubbay were re-elected directors.

On the motion of Mr. G. de CHAMPEAU, seconded by Mr. J. ORANGE, Messrs. F. Henderson and C. S. Sharp were re-elected auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, that concludes the business of the meeting. Dividend warrants will be sent out on Monday.

Mr. J. H. COX—Mr. Chairman, I have great pleasure in proposing that the shareholders of this corporation give a cordial vote of thanks to the directors for their valuable services during the past half year. I think we all agree with the Chairman that the great success of this corporation has been mainly owing in the very largest degree to the phenomenal perseverance and great ability of our esteemed manager, Mr. Thomas Jackson. (Applause.) We therefore tender to him our cordial thanks and congratulations and we are immensely pleased to learn from the Chairman that he will remain with us some few years. To the other members of the staff of the corporation in all parts of the world our cordial thanks are also due. This is an occasion which affords me the opportunity to make a remark which I am sure the shareholders will agree with. We always have appreciated the very great attention of the gentlemen connected with the Hongkong staff, and their desire to do everything they can for us and for the Bank's constituents. We at all times meet with the greatest assistance whenever we have occasion to enter the Bank's premises. We are confident of the increased success of the Bank, and that there is a great future before us in the opening up of China. With these few remarks I beg to propose a cordial vote of thanks to the Board of Directors, Mr. Thomas Jackson, and the staff.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Cox and gentlemen, on behalf of the Directors, the Chief Manager and staff generally, I thank you for your cordial vote of thanks.

HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LIMITED.

On 20th Feb. at noon the 12th ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the Company, No. 4, Praya Central. The chair was occupied by the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, the other gentlemen present being Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. C. Beurmann, A. Haupt, N. A. Siebs, A. J. Raymond, H. A. Ritchie, D. Gubbay, E. S. Whealler, P. Sachse, C. H. Thompson, C. S. Sharp (directors), E. Osborne (secretary), E. Georg, J. Goosmann, Ho Fook, and R. C. Wilcox.

The notice convening the meeting was read by the SECRETARY.

The CHAIRMAN said—The Company's operations during 1898, as set forth in the report and accounts which have been in your hands the past few days, show a very marked advance on previous years, and the recommendations of your directors in regard to the disposal of the balance at credit of profit and loss account will doubtless meet with the approval of shareholders and afford them gratification. A portion of the increased business of the year resulted from a temporary dislocation of trade caused by the war in the Philippines and although we cannot look for a continuance of custom from this cause,—yet I think we may safely predict that Hongkong—and with it the Wharf Company—will benefit considerably by the expansion of trade which we hope will follow the settlement of

the difficulties in those islands. The godown space at our disposal for the sorting of the large quantity of goods we handled during the year has been very limited and was in fact largely encroached upon to make room for the heavy stocks which accumulated on storage, and the inevitable result of this encroachment was that our resources were so taxed it became impossible to conduct the work with proper care and attention, and we were compelled, in a measure, to sacrifice efficiency to the exigencies of the moment. Under these circumstances and bearing in mind how very essential it is in a business such as ours to have ample accommodation, your directors at once decided to erect a large godown on one of the timber yards, and at the same time they acquired three lots of adjoining ground on which to store the timber thus displaced, at a price which compares favourably with recent land sales at Kowloon. This teaches us that we must not again be unprepared for sudden and exceptional demands upon our space and with that end in view it is our intention to still further add to the godown accommodation at Kowloon. We also propose to increase the fleet of cargo boats, as our experiences of the past year have shown that it is not to the interests of the company to be in the slightest degree dependent upon the caprice of native lightermen. At Kowloon we are re-erecting the sheer legs which have been lying idle so long, the indications being that there will be considerable importations of heavy weights and railway material in the near future, and we think the company should be prepared for this branch of work. The West Point Reclamation is now completely utilised and the buildings there comprise six godowns and four Chinese houses, all of which are yielding a good return on the outlay. It may interest you to know that since the company issued its debentures in 1894 it has expended \$126,470 in new buildings, and the debenture holders have consequently had their security improved by that amount. In this connection I may add that a recent valuation of the company's assets shows that, taking the land at prices even lower than at which adjacent property has changed hands—taking the buildings and wharves at the price they would cost to-day, and taking the launches, lighters and other realizable assets at what they would sell at auction—your assets at the present moment exceed your liabilities by more than half a million of dollars. I shall be pleased to answer any question shareholders may desire to ask.

No questions were asked, and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. GOOSMANN in seconding, said—Mr. Chairman, thanking you for the interesting figures you have given us in your speech which we have just heard, I beg to rise to second the adoption of the report and accounts. At the same time I wish to solicit a vote of thanks to our directorate and in particular to pay a special compliment to our manager, Mr. Osborne. It is perhaps ten years ago—the meetings of this Company were then held at the City Hall in the Chamber of Commerce Room, Mr. James Keswick being in the chair—that I complimented this Company upon having secured the services of our present manager. There is perhaps nobody here who knows better than myself the many little difficulties which are connected with the working of this company, and I can assure you it has been a great deal of uphill work. We know, of course, that we have been favoured during the past year by unusually fortunate circumstances, but I must compliment our Board of Directors, and especially our able manager, that they have made such good use of these favourable circumstances. I know a few words of acknowledgement will sometimes go a very long way. I am certain that all I have said will be fully re-echoed by the shareholders who are unfortunately prevented from coming here in consequence of the miserable weather to-day, and I hope that these words of acknowledgement will urge on our Board of Directors and our manager, Mr. Osborne, to lay before us next year an equally favourable report to that laid before us to-day. With these remarks, Mr. Chairman, I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts.

The appointment of Messrs. Sachse, Haupt, and Thompson as directors was confirmed, on

the motion of Mr. GEORG, seconded by Mr. Ho Fook.

Messrs. Beermann and Whealler were re-elected directors, on the motion of Mr. GOOSMANN, seconded by Mr. GEORG.

Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts were re-elected auditors, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. WILCOX.

This was all the business. The CHAIRMAN announced that dividend warrants would be posted that afternoon.

The following is the report presented to the meeting:—

The directors have now to submit to shareholders their report with a statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1898.

ACCOUNTS.—The gross revenue derived from Wharfage, Landing, &c., amounted in 1898 to \$604,934.76 as against \$398,749.95 the previous year, showing an increase of \$206,184.81 and the profit on working was \$216,053.38 as compared with \$126,445.28 in 1897 being an increase of \$89,608.10.

The balance at credit of profit and loss after paying interim dividend of 3 per cent. and including \$9,808.51 brought forward from last year is \$159,952.94, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:

Directors' and Auditors' fees	\$ 6,500.00
Final Dividend of 7 per cent	70,000.00
Transfer to Depreciation and Repairs Account	20,000.00
Write off Railways and Rolling Stock	4,000.00
„ Launches	3,862.64
„ Lighters	4,521.98
„ West Point Wharf	3,000.00
„ Furniture and Plant	3,503.93
Carry forward to new account	44,544.39
	\$159,952.94

BUSINESS.—The volume of the Company's business during 1898 was considerably greater than in any previous year, but a large proportion of the increase was due to the War in the Philippines, which caused a temporary transfer of trade from Manila to Hongkong.

LAND.—The Company has recently acquired:	
—K. I. L. 409	area 21,788 square feet.
„ 411	39,969 „
„ 414	33,750 „
	95,507 „

BUILDINGS.—A new two storeyed godown is in course of erection on M. L. 20 at Kowloon. At West Point the two godowns referred to in last report have been completed and four Chinese houses are being built at the corners of the Company's property there.

LAUNCHES.—A new tug named the *Stork* was completed in March last.

LIGHTERS.—Six new cargo boats were built during the year. In consequence of the exorbitant charges made at times by native lightermen it has been decided to still further add to the Company's fleet of boats.

WHARVES.—There have been no exceptional alterations or repairs to the wharves. A small new wooden one to carry the Sheer Legs is in course of construction.

DIRECTORS.—Mr. G. D. Boëning, Mr. St. C. Michaelsen, and Mr. A. Ross having resigned on leaving the colony their places have been taken respectively by Mr. P. Sachse, Mr. A. Haupt, and Mr. C. H. Thompson and the appointment of these gentlemen require confirmation.

AUDITORS.—Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts have audited the accounts now presented, and the Directors recommend them for re-election.

J. J. BELL-IRVING,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 17th February, 1899.

The balance sheet shows liabilities of \$1,882,643.89 made up of the following items, namely, capital \$1,000,000. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank \$141,16.53. debentures \$500,000, sundry creditors \$132,201.91, depreciation and repairs account \$64,229.56, unclaimed dividends \$501.50, and profit and loss account \$44,544. On the other side of the account the value of the Company's property is set out in detail, the principal items being as follows:—Value of land and buildings at Kowloon \$1,265,385.16, wharves at Kowloon \$100,377.15, West Point Reclamation (44,435 sq. feet at \$4) \$177,740, West Point

buildings \$93,536.85, and sundry debtors \$100,853.34. The profit and loss account shows on the debit side \$25,908.95 as interest, \$30,000 as interim dividend, and the balance of \$159,952.94 appropriated as recommended in the report. The following is the working account:—

Dr.	\$	c.
To wages of permanent staff	88,175.36	
To Crown rent	8,959.17	
To taxes	12,288.33	
To charges (office and telephone rent, stationery and printing, collecting commission, sundries, &c.	12,599.23	
To legal expenses	761.75	
To fire insurance	2,697.40	
To claims on cargo	2,598.88	
To expenses on cargo and coal, coolie hire, &c.	248,610.33	
To expenses of launches	9,959.67	
To expenses of lighters	2,230.78	
To balance to profit and loss account	216,053.38	
	\$604,934.76	
Cr.	\$	c.
By wharfage, storing, landing, &c.	604,934.76	
	\$604,934.76	

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LIMITED.

The thirteenth annual general meeting of the Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Limited, was held on 20th Feb. at the registered offices of the Company, Nos. 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central. Mr. H. Humphreys presided. The others present were:—Messrs. J. A. Jupp, G. C. Cox, A. H. Mancell, J. A. Tarrant, and W. C. Taylor (Secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts have been in your hands for some days, so with your permission I will take them as read. You will observe that rent account shows an increase over 1897 of \$8,194.18, and we estimate the current year will show a still larger increase under this heading. The Company, with a rent roll sufficient in itself to pay a fair dividend, and valuable land at Kowloon in reserve, available for new buildings, will thus be in a very sound position. The 250 Dock shares held by the Company as a temporary investment on 31st December last and against which they had borrowed \$50,742.8 from the Hongkong Bank were sold in the early part of the year as money was required to pay for newly acquired properties and to provide for payments due on building contracts; and you will notice in this connection that there has been an increase during the year of \$174,624.87 in the amount invested in property, about half of which is represented by new purchases and about half by new buildings. You will note amongst the assets an item of \$500 Deposit with Hongkong Government. This forms part of our contribution to the West End Park scheme. As the amount has to be repaid by the Government under certain eventualities we have not considered it advisable to write it off. The Park when finished should greatly improve the lettable value of your Richmond Estate property. The whole of our building operations during the past year have been confined to Kowloon. We completed the terrace of eight houses known as Granville Avenue in March last, and the four houses known as Ormsby Villas in November. We commenced the erection of another terrace of seven houses in the early part of the year. These are nearly finished and have been all let from completion at remunerative rentals. At the last meeting of shareholders we informed you we had acquired five good building lots at Yaumatei. Payment for these was made in shares carrying dividend from 1st January, 1898. On one of the lots we are putting up 17 three-storeyed Chinese houses, which are now nearing completion and should be ready for occupation by the end of March. On this side of the water we have done no building, but we have acquired a large and valuable estate on the Peak Road, comprising Inland Lot 1157, Sec. A I. Lot 1148, I. Lot 1206, and I. Lot 1485. All these lots are built on with the exception of I. Lot 1485, upon which we propose to put up two fine houses as soon as possible. Our building programme for this year provides also for another fourteen houses

at Kowloon. At present we have no houses to let anywhere. If there are any questions to ask, I shall be pleased to answer them.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. COX seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the re-election of Mr. Fullerton Henderson as auditor.

Mr. MANOELL seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business of the meeting. Dividend warrants are now ready and can be had by application at the office. Thank you for your attendance.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, to the ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Company, No. 14, Praya, Hongkong, on Monday, the 27th February, at noon:—

To the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited.

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now to submit to you their Report, with a Statement of Accounts for the half-year ended 31st December last.

The net profit for the six months, after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to \$397,241.29 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last Account 98,004.50

\$495,245.79

and from this have to be deducted—

Directors' Fees \$7,000.00

Auditors' Fees 750.00

7,750.00

leaving available for appropriation \$487,495.79

The directors recommend that a dividend for the half year of 8 per cent. or \$125,000, and a bonus of 8 per cent. or \$125,000 aggregating \$250,000, be paid to the shareholders, a bonus of \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, bonus of \$25,000 to the European staff of the Company, that \$69,955.94 be written from the value of Kowloon Docks, \$25,345.10 from Cosmopolitan Dock, \$5,000 from the Steam Launches, and the balance \$92,194.75 be carried to the new account.

The large amount of new construction and repairs which have passed through our hands during the six months just closed have kept all our workshops more than fully employed, and in order to overtake the pressure of business it has been found necessary to keep both workmen and machines on nightwork for some months, which clearly justifies the steps already taken by the Board to largely augment the facilities of our workshops at both the Kowloon and the Cosmopolitan Establishments, and to accommodate some large vessels now in course of construction for the Pacific Mail, the Board has decided to increase the length of the No. 1 dock by 50 feet.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. George B. Dodwell having left the colony, Mr. E. S. Whealler was invited to the vacant seat on the Board.

In accordance with the clause 60 of the Articles of Association Messrs. C. Beermann and E. S. Whealler retire by rotation, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving has been appointed Chairman for the year 1899.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Thos. Arnold and Mr. S. G. Bird; the Directors recommend these gentlemen for re-election.

J. H. LEWIS, Chairman.

Hongkong, 16th February, 1899.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT, JULY TO DECEMBER, 1898.

31st Dec., 1898. ASSETS. \$ c.

Aberdeen.

To value of Aberdeen Docks, as per last statement 100,000.00

Kowloon. \$ c.

To value of Kowloon Docks, as per last statement 1,222,363.99

Less amount since written off 102,363.99

1,120,000.00

To amount paid on account of removal of hill on the new extension Kowloon marine lot

No. 27, and balance of contract filling in foreshore of extension to Hunghom marine lot No. 1	10,701.94
To amount paid Colonial Government to defray cost of diverting outfall sewer stipulated under clause 2 of the special conditions relating to the sale of Hunghom marine lot No. 2	4,000.00
To amount paid fitting electric light plant in new dwellings, &c.	9,852.00
To amount paid completing new Joiners' shop	738.00
To amount paid on account of new blacksmiths' shop	17,952.00
To amount paid on account of boiler shop and ship-building yard improvements	18,004.00
To amount paid on account No. 2 Dock, foundation tank for new centrifugal pumps	3,762.00
To cost of new machines for turning shop	4,946.00
	1,130,955.94

Cosmopolitan.

To value of Cosmopolitan Dock, as per last statement	297,589.97
Less amount since written off	22,589.97
	275,000.00
To amount paid balance of contract cutting new road and building retaining wall	1,800.00
To amount paid on account of new workshops	8,959.25
To amount paid on account of new godowns	10,854.29
To amount paid building new boat-building shed	18,031.68
To cost of new machines; travelling crane and hydraulic rivetting plant	21,099.88
	325,845.10
Tug, launches, and lighters.	
To value of <i>Fams</i> as per last account	15,000.00
To value of 15 steam launches, steam lighter and boats, as per last statement	50,000.00
Less amount since written off, and proceeds of one lau. ch sold	10,500.00
	89,500.00
To Humphreys' Estate and Finance Company 6 per cent. mortgage debentures	100,000.00
To sundry debtors	335,519.70
To cost of material on hand	1,275,875.97
	\$3,384,196.71

31st Dec., 1898. LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
By shareholders for 12,500 shares of \$125 each fully paid up	1,562,500.00
By reserve fund	800,000.00
By admiralty loan £20,000 00 6	
Less repayments 9,030 4 10	
	£10,969 15 2 at 1s. 11 3 16
By sundry creditors	412,909.49
By balance of profit brought forward from last account	98,004.50
By profit	397,241.29
	495,245.79
	\$3,384,196.71

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

31st December, 1898.	0 c.
To interest	1,677.54
To rown rent	2,718.55
To fire insurance	1,877.11
To office expenses, Salaries, stationery, and rent of head office	20,729.70
To drawing office expenses and salaries	5,260.22
To telegrams	1,898.19
To legal expenses	1,042.88
To profit	397,241.29
	\$431,945.48

1st July to Dec. 31, 1898. \$ c.

By net earnings of the Company's three establishments	426,735.79
By towage net earnings	4,490.16
By transfer fees	195.00
By bonus on premia, &c.	524.53
	\$431,945.48

A private letter received from Manila yesterday says:—"We had a hot time on Friday night (Feb. 10th). Everybody went into the walled city. The Insurgents broke into our lines two miles from Manila and people got frightened for a time, but our troops soon put them in their places with really great slaughter of the Insurgents, as I turned out and saw them myself."

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirtieth ordinary general meeting, to be held at the offices of the General Managers, on Wednesday, the 1st March, at noon:—

The General Managers and Consulting Committee beg to present to shareholders the thirtieth annual report of the company.

1897 Account.—This account shows a profit of \$225,522.40, which sum, with the approval of the consulting committee, it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz:—

Bonus to contributing shareholders \$ 6,970.16
Addition to reserve fund 22,552.24
Dividend of \$24.50 per share 196,000.00

\$225,522.40

1898 Account.—The balance at credit of this account is \$296,540.66.

MORTGAGES.

From the reports and valuations made by the Company's surveyors the General Managers and Consulting Committee are satisfied that the properties held by the Company form ample security for the advances made.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Messrs. Maitland and Ross having left the colony, Messrs. S. G. Bird and C. H. Thompson were nominated for the vacant seats; these appointments require the confirmation of shareholders. The present members, Messrs. Chater, Lewis, Raymond, Bird, and Thompson retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Fullerton Henderson and W. Hutton Potts and their re-election is recommended.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,

General Managers,

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.
Hongkong, 15th February, 1899.

BALANCE SHEET TO 31st DECEMBER, 1898.

Dr.

LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
Capital subscribed	\$2,000,000.00
Amount paid-up	400,000.00
Reserve fund	1,046,763.76
Uncollected dividends	5,095.21
Accounts payable	36,531.48
Working account, 1897,—	
Net profit	225,522.40
Working account, 1898,—	
Amount brought forward from below	296,540.66
	\$2,010,453.51

Cr.

ASSETS.	\$ c.
Cash, on current account with Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	58,269.08
Cash in hands of General Managers	582.22
Fixed deposits,—	
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank- ing Corporation	100,000.00
Chartered Bank of India, Aus- tralia, and China	50,000.00
Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.	50,000.00
	200,000.00

Mortgages,—	
In Hongkong	904,520.00
In Shanghai	460,583.43
In Yokohama	25,725.39
	1,390,828.82

Investments,—	
Chinese Imperial Government Loan, 1886,	37,621.86
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Ltd., Debentures,	60,000.00
Hongkong High-Level Tram- ways Company, Limited, Debentures,	11,500.00
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited, Deben- tures,	62,608.70
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited, Deben- tures,	27,586.20
200 Shares in the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited,	13,000.00
5 Shares in the China Fire In- surance Company, Limited	875.00
	212,691.76

Steam Fire Engines,	500.00
Accounts Receivable,	152,581.68
	\$2,010,453.51

Working Account, 1897.

To losses and claims paid	63,231.35
To return premia and re-insurances	4,866.53

To remuneration to Consulting Committee and auditors	5,833.33
To balance as above	225,522.40
	\$298,667.86

By balance from last account	288,875.16
Add—Sundry premia since received	9,792.70
	\$298,667.86

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1898.	\$ c.
To losses and claims paid	82,496.14
To charges	24,488.88
To commissions	35,83.39
To fire brigade expenses	363.75
To balance as above	296,540.66
	\$439,720.82

By net premia received, less returns and re-insurances	323,750.25
By interest	115,032.10
By exchange	857.47
By transfer fees	81.00
	\$439,720.82

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirtieth ordinary meeting, to be held at the Company's offices on Monday, 13th March, at noon:—

The Directors have now the pleasure to submit their annual report and statement of the Company's accounts made up to 31st December last.

1897.—The balance at credit of Working account as per last report was	\$237,802.90
Add premia since received	3,366.10
	\$241,169.00
Deduct claims paid in 1898	\$ 54,366.25
Deduct return premia, &c., &c.	5,451.65
	59,817.90

Balance of profit..... **\$181,351.10**

It is proposed to apportion this sum as follows: \$120,000 to shareholders as dividend for the year, at the rate of \$6 per share; \$4,371 as bonus to contributors of premia; and the balance, \$56,972.10, to the credit of Extra Reserve Fund Account, which the Directors trust will meet with approval.

1898.—The balance at credit of Working Account at the close of this year was \$1,046,20, which is considerably smaller than usual, due to the numerous losses which have occurred at agencies, but it is hoped that the account will not suffer any further serious diminution.

DIRECTORS.

On his return to the colony, Mr. A. McConachie was invited to resume his seat at the Board, which shareholders will be asked to confirm.

Messrs. Sharp and Beermann retire by rotation, and, being eligible, the former gentleman offers himself for re-election, but not Mr. Beermann, owing to his approaching departure from the colony.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. Hutton Potts have audited the annexed accounts and offer themselves for re-election.

SECRETARY.

Owing to the unsatisfactory state of Mr. Coughtrie's health, the Board granted him leave of absence last Summer on a medical certificate, and at the meeting the Directors intend to submit to the shareholders a proposal to grant him a retiring allowance of £400 per annum.

N. A. SIEBS, Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1898.

LIABILITIES.		\$ c.
Capital account	400,000.00	
Reserve fund	1,000,000.00	
Extra reserve fund:—		
Transferred from 1897	56,972.10	
Accounts payable:—		
Dividend for 1897	\$120,000.00	
Bonus for 1897 and sundries	8,730.34	
		128,730.34

Working account, 1898:—	
Balance at credit	120,486.20
	\$1,706,188.64

ASSETS.		\$ c.
Cash at bankers	22,381.33	
Fixed deposits at banks:—		
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	\$140,000.00	
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	60,000.00	
Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.	50,000.00	
National Bank of China, Ltd.	15,000.00	
		265,000.00

Investments:—	
Chinese Imperial Government E. bonds	\$100,557.75
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited debentures	103,152.50
Hongkong Club debentures	50,000.00
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited debentures	49,877.40
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., debentures	41,617.07
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Limited debentures	8,472.22
	353,676.94

Loans on mortgage:—	
On properties in Hongkong	\$897,661.38
On properties in Shanghai	55,363.84
On properties in Amoy	20,000.00
	973,025.22

Inland lot No. 685:—	
Assigned by mortgagor	20,000.00
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited:—	
Four shares	522.00

Furniture account:—	
Office furniture, &c.	500.00
Accounts receivable:—	
Premia due from agencies, interest due on deposits and investments, &c.	71,083.15

1,706,188.64

WORKING ACCOUNT 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER, 1898

Dr.		\$ c.
To charges account:—		
Rent, salaries, legal and surveyors' fees, taxes, stamps, stationery, &c.	\$32,434.39	
Directors' and auditors' fees	7,400.00	
	39,834.39	

To commission account:—		
Agents' commissions	26,038.28	
To fire brigades account:—		
Contributions at agencies, &c.	421.99	
To losses account, 1898:—		
Claims paid after deduction of re-insurances	17,922.95	
To amount written off:—		
Furniture account	60.00	
To balance	120,486.20	
	\$358,763.81	

Cr.		\$ c.
By premium account:—		
Premium received after deduction of re-insurances	259,813.54	
By interest account:—		
Amount at credit, including interest due on deposits and investments, &c.	98,756.14	
By transfer fee account:—		
Amount at credit	194.13	
	\$358,763.81	

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

The second ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co., Ltd., was held on 17th Feb at the Company's office, No 9, Praya Central. Mr. R. Shewan presided. The other gentlemen present were:—Messrs. J. H. Lewis, J. S. van Buren, Chan Tung Shan and Chow Hing Kee (Consulting Committee), C. Ewins (Solicitor), A. Babington (Secretary), C. A. Tomes, T. E. Davis, C. Kliuck, E. J. Kelly, A. H. Hewitt, H. Wicking, G. Murray Bain, F. J. Jorge, F. N. Gutierrez, E. W. Terry, Fung Wa Chuen, Chow Hong Wa, Sin Un, Au Yeung Ping Co.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, in the ordinary course of events we should not have come before you till three months later, but this being the first year of the company we thought that shareholders would like to know a little sooner how we are getting on. Accordingly we now present accounts to 31st December last, which, having been in your hands for some time, I will, with your permission, dispense with the formality of reading. The period under

review from the day the final call was paid is just 9 months, and when you consider that of that time much was necessarily lost in getting our funds safely and profitably invested, you will agree with us that for the first few months of the company's existence it has done very well to gross such an income as nearly \$34,000. For a first year when there are generally very heavy preliminary expenses to be faced, our expenditure for legal and other charges cannot but be deemed moderate, nothing whatever having been spent for promotion money, underwriting, &c. While on this subject I may mention that as it is not the intention to fill up the vacancy on the consulting committee, caused by the death of Mr. Wong Hoi-chow the fee will be proportionately reduced. Turning to the accounts, I see nothing in them which requires explanation or comment except perhaps the item of sundry creditors and sundry debtors, amounts against which have since been respectively collected and paid off. When we met here in June last, I said we had \$105,000 lent out on provident loans, and \$326,000 on short loans, and you will see from the accounts that, as we anticipated, our loans on the provident system have increased to \$334,589 on 31st December, while we have had to correspondingly reduce our loans on goods, &c., which we only resorted to in order to keep our funds employed. To-day our provident loans amount to \$380,728.89 with about \$7,500 more promised, so it is quite apparent that this system of borrowing has become popular and that to meet the demand for such accommodation our present resources are quite insufficient. In the present state of the money market in this colony, we do not think it advisable to attempt a further issue of capital at present and we see no course open to us but to appeal to all our shareholders and friends to do their best to place our 6 per cent debenture bonds with the public. To those who study safety for their investments these bonds should certainly offer favourable inducements as the security offered is first class—for besides our capital, which is intact, they have a further guarantee of half a million dollars still uncalled. The safety of their money is therefore as fully assured as any loan could well be, while a return of a clean 6 per cent is not to be despised and is just about double what could be got for the same money at home. We have not sold many of these bonds hitherto, but we feel that the time has now come for us to make a greater effort to do so, as our business is increasing, and with the certainty of a greater and greater demand during the present year, we must put ourselves in a position to cope with it. I hope that not only you who have come here to-day but all of our shareholders will lay these considerations to heart, and heartily assist us to get more of these bonds placed. An important point about which we have been asked is the valuation of the properties we advance against, and I take this opportunity of assuring shareholders that this is very carefully done and that we take the greatest care when arranging a loan to see that we have a proper margin which we can fall back on in the event of the borrower failing to pay his monthly instalment on its due date. So far, I am glad to say, we have had no difficulty in this respect. You must bear in mind, too, that every monthly payment by reducing the debt increases the margin in hand, a state of affairs which is as satisfactory I think as any lender could wish for. Furthermore, real estate as you all know has risen during the past year and is still steadily rising. You may rest assured that everything is being done with a due regard to prudence and the protection of the capital you have invested in this company. It has been suggested that we should pay interim half-yearly dividends and if we continue as we are doing I see no reason why we should not follow the suggestion. I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts. Mr. DAVIS seconded.

Carried.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN proposed the re-election of Messrs. J. H. Lewis, J. S. Van Buren, Chow Hing Kee and Chau Tung Shung to the Consulting Committee.

Mr. KLINCK seconded.
Carried.

Mr. H. WICKING proposed the re-election of Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts as auditors.

Mr. KELLY seconded.
Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow. I thank you for your attendance.

QUEEN MINES, LIMITED.

The first general statutory meeting of the Queen Mines, Ltd., was held on 17th Feb. at the Company's offices, Nos. 38 and 48, Queen's Road Central. Mr. H. Humphreys presided. The others present were:—Messrs J. A. Jupp, S. Rustomjee, W. D. Jupp, A. P. Nobbs, A. H. Mancell, Sin Tak Fan, and W. C. Taylor.

Mr. TAYLOR read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, this is a statutory meeting which we are obliged to hold within four months from the date of the formation of the company. The company was registered on the 18th October last, and as you know was formed for the purpose of taking over the assets and liabilities of the New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited (in liquidation), for the sum of \$2,000, to be paid and satisfied by the issue to the shareholders of that company, of 100,000 shares of 25 cents each in Queen Mines, Limited, and for the further development of certain mining properties held by them, situate at Mount McDonald in New South Wales, Australia, more particularly that property known as the "Queen of the Mount" Mine. This arrangement has been duly effected and the shares are being issued as fast as we receive applications from the liquidator of the New Balmoral Company. When we took over the properties in the "Queen of the Mount" Mine a shaft had been sunk to a depth of 400 feet. We got to work as soon as possible, and after pumping the water out of the shaft, chambers were cut and cross-cuts commenced both east and west, with a view of intercepting the reef at this level. After about six weeks' work a reef was cut in the West cross-cut, three feet wide, which we have since learned, on assay, proved to be of an average value of 5 dwts. to the ton. We hear from Australia that our consulting expert, Mr. J. W. Roberts, considered this a most encouraging result, as when cut some 50 feet above, the reef was barren of gold. On the 27th ult., we received a telegram from our agent in Sydney which we published in the papers, to the effect that a new reef had been cut, also in the west cross-cut, five feet wide, an average sample of which had assayed 33 dwts. to the ton. We have not yet received full particulars of this new strike by letter, but we may say that we regard this as of the highest possible importance. It makes our prospects appear very bright indeed, and not only that, but the "Queen," being the deepest shaft on the field, it seems to point to the presence of good gold all over the Mount at a greater depth than has yet been attained. I do not think I need detain you longer, gentlemen; as soon as we receive further particulars from Australia they shall be circulated to the shareholders, and, meantime, I think we have every reason to congratulate ourselves on the promising results already achieved. There is one other matter to which I have to refer, namely, to the election of a consulting committee. The Articles of Association provide that the consulting committee shall consist of Mr. S. Rustomjee and any other members appointed by the shareholders in meeting. I think it would be advisable to appoint another gentleman to consult with us and advise us in your interests, and would suggest the name of Mr. C. Ewens. I therefore propose that Mr. Ewens be elected to the consulting committee.

Mr. MANCELL seconded, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business. Thank you for your attendance.

H.R.M.S. Sivoocha, Captain Niedermuller, arrived at Shanghai on the 17th February from Port Arthur and will probably remain some four or five weeks undergoing general repairs.

THE EUREKA AND QUEEN MINES.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son inform us that they have received per Airtels the following reports from Mr. J. W. Roberts, Mining Expert, on the Eureka and Queen Mines, dated Sydney, January 25th:—

EUREKA MINE.

In this mine the 150 feet level is being extended with all possible speed with a view to connecting with "B" shaft. This drive has been in good ore all the way and is now some considerable distance north of any old workings. It appears as though we shall have a continuous run of payable stone at this level right through to "B" shaft, and as the good shoot has been proved down to about 240 feet it will be seen that there will be many thousands of tons of payable ore to work out.

At the 300 feet level the work done of late has been putting up a rise, but so far no special improvement is to be noted. Their work will have to be discontinued for a time owing to bad air. A winze will shortly be started from 200 feet to connect with the rise. For the present it will be advisable to limit operations to extending the 150 feet and 200 feet levels north and sloping under 200 feet, leaving other development work in abeyance until we have the machine drills at work.

QUEEN MINE.

I have a very pleasing report to make respecting this mine. As cabled to you we cut the reef in the Western crosscut. It is three feet thick and assays averaged about 5 dwts. This is not payable, but it is encouraging as showing an improvement in 50 feet from nil to 5 dwts. Last week, however, it was discovered that this vein did not constitute the whole of the lode. What appeared to be the Western wall was broken into and behind it more quartz was revealed. This was driven into and proved to be 5 feet wide. There can be no doubt as to this stone being of payable quality at the point where it has been intersected. The manager has forwarded us a small bag of specimens all showing gold—not very rich, but still very good as the metal is finely disseminated through the stone. He was instructed to break out a fair average sample of the full 5 feet. Rough tests which I have made show this bulk sample to be worth at least 1½ oz. per ton. Assay results are not yet to hand.

I shall be at the mine in the course of a few days for the purpose of laying out the foundations for the air-compressing plant and I shall be able to send you more definite information respecting the new find.

THE GREAT EASTERN AND CALDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

Messrs. Lutgens, Einstmann & Co., the General Agents, forward us the following report received from the Manager at the Mines:—

In the Great Eastern Mine, we have carried the leading stope north from the rise 33 feet and the first stope above it 19 feet. The reef averages 4 feet and is of good average quality. We have broken quite 100 tons during the last ten days here, which with the lot on top already will go close on 400 tons, all of which is being carted to the battery as the first lot to be crushed. I have started contractors on the air shaft, who have sunk during the last week 7 feet, or rather continued the old underlay shaft for this distance, breaking very fine stone in going down.

Zulu Mine.—This shows up better the more development work we are doing.

Leading stope North is in 35 feet

do 1 " " 23 "

do 2 " " 14 "

the reef averaging one foot all through of splendid quality.

Leading stope south is in to the end of the drive so far.

Stope 1 is in 27 feet

2 " " 21 "

3 " " 10 "

and the same remarks apply to this side. We have profited by the soft formation met in this end, mentioned in my former report, and started a rise to meet the stopes coming south, which is

now in 8 feet and which will enable us to break the stone faster. Particularly from this end we are raising good ore, showing gold very freely indeed, and the about 350 tons we have on top from this mine should render a good account of itself. The southern end is very promising; it is full of rich leaders and traversed by soft seams of carbonates of lime, carrying fine gold, which is a sure indication that we are approaching something good. I shall be very anxious to see this mine deeper, for all the richest gold seems to go under foot with the reef promising to get larger. We have in the Zulu no doubt a rich mine. The stone from here will be the second lot to pass through the battery.

Bank of England Mine.—The contractors have carried the drive on the north foot wall reef in 60 feet, and I have knocked them off, as the paddock is at present full, containing about 600 tons, which should also yield a good cake. This will be the third lot to do through.

Battery.—This was at last completed on the 13th instant, excepting the building of the furnaces and the strong room we are at present busy with, and on Saturday, the 14th inst., we made a start, trying the machinery. I have every reason to be proud of the plant; the battery runs with hardly any vibration, the vanners work well, the only fault to find with the latter being that the various boxes had to be cut smaller owing to the vendors supplying incorrect plans, but it is a minor matter. The Watson and Denny pans of course require some grinding before the segments have worked themselves into their grooves, and that is the reason why we have not put through much the last week as we had to stop frequently to let the pans grind down, to tighten belts, etc.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE ON GENERAL BLACK'S ADMINISTRATION.

The following despatch is published in the Gazette:—

Downing Street, 6th January, 1899.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Major-General Black's Despatch No. 326 of the 24th of November, enclosing a copy of the interesting speech which he delivered to the Legislative Council reviewing the principal events that had occurred during his ten months' tenure of office as Acting Governor of Hong-kong:

2. The period of General Black's administration was in many respects an eventful one for the colony, and I wish to express my appreciation of his able services as Acting Governor, and my satisfaction that they have been so cordially recognized by the members of the Legislative Council.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant.

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir H. Blake, G.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c.

TACTICAL MILITARY EXERCISES AT THE PEAK.

THE VOLUNTEERS TAKE PART.

On Saturday afternoon both units of the Hong-kong Volunteer Corps paraded in full strength at Headquarters for tactical exercises at the Peak in conjunction with the troops of the garrison. The men were conveyed to the Peak by tram, the guns having been sent on in advance and parked near the Peak Hotel. His Excellency the Governor and a large number of civilians journeyed to the Peak to witness the operations, which were most interesting and instructive. All the troops of the Peak defence were in position shortly after three o'clock and were waiting to resist the supposed attack of a force known to have landed on the south shore and marching on the ridge by the Pokfulam valley or Aberdeen-Magazine Gap valley, or both. The defending forces consisted of the Peak section of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers reinforced by the Hongkong Volunteers and a company of the Hongkong Regiment, under the command of Major Morris, B.W.F. The attacking forces comprised the remaining companies of the Fusiliers and the Hongkong Regiment, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Retallick, H.K.R. After an anxious wait the enemy was discovered advancing up

the hillside by unknown routes, the regular roads having apparently been purposely avoided, and in this way they gained a little, as while the gaze of the defence was to a great extent concentrated on the Pokfulam and other roads leading from the south shore, the enemy had been making their own tracks up the hillside. But they were soon discovered and the Field Battery of the Volunteers immediately opened fire on them with case shot and would have done great execution had the firing been "live" instead of blank. The Mount Gough section of the Field Battery, under Capt. Chapman, had a long engagement with a party of the Hongkong Regt., a well directed fire from the 7-pounders being maintained, and under ordinary circumstances, we should think, the advancing infantry at this point would have been annihilated. The "cease fire" was sounded at about 5-30 and the troops were soon on the march back to Hongkong by different routes. The result of the operations will not be known until the umpires give their decision.

PAHANG MINING.

A VISIT TO PUNJOM.

Mr. Clifford in his residential report for December describes a visit to Punjom, where he arrived on the 16th of that month. On the 17th he went over all the mines near Jalis, in company with Mr. Bailey, the Manager, and was much impressed with the amount of prospecting work which has been undertaken since Mr. Bailey's arrival, three months before. Hitherto the Punjom Company has been content to work almost entirely at the August shaft; Mr. Bailey, however, has adopted a large and more long-sighted policy; he has already begun to test the value of numerous places in the vicinity of the shaft. Work is going on at 'Tangkong, at Manuk, at the Coffee Garden Mine, at the New Find above the Dam, at Selango', at Gelompang, and at Suar; and of these, Tangkong, Manuk, and Suar give very encouraging indications. Suar is situated at a distance of about two miles from the camp, and the long water-race which skirts it, together with other indications, show that in the past it has been the scene of extensive Chinese mining operations. The valley is strewn with large quartz boulders, many of which assay from 15 dw't. to an ounce per ton, and there is more than one solid-looking outcrop. Until quite recently the owners of the Punjom Concession appear to have been quite ignorant of the existence of this place. It is impossible yet to express any opinion as to whether or no the Punjom Concession will prove to be of solid value; but under Mr. Bailey's energetic management there can be no doubt that its possibilities will be thoroughly tested.

FOOTBALL.

SECOND ROUND OF SHIELD TIE.

A team representing the Hongkong V. R. C. met the 25th Company of the Eastern Division Royal Artillery on Saturday, at Happy Valley, in the second round of the shield competition. Of the first half there is not much to record, for the play was very even on both sides, the advantage, if any, being on the side of the V. R. C. Those most prominent in this half were Robinson (capt.) and Cooper for the Artillery, and Seth, Henderson, and Tuohy for the Victoria Club, the last-named being particularly in evidence with sure kicking.

It looked as if the second half would be a repetition of the first, as play still waged even for half the time. Then the Artillery rallied and kept Brett, the goalkeeper, busy. On one occasion the civilians ought to have scored, for the ball was taken close to the soldiers' goal, and Yule had no opposition save the goalkeeper; but Yule made a shockingly bad attempt to score, kicking the ball to the left of the goal post when within a few yards of the goal's mouth. The Artillery secured the ball after the goal kick, and Robinson got the best of Yule and then sprinted down the field at top speed and beat Brett, the ball going into the net amidst loud shouting from those who wore the cloth of the Artillery. The V. R. C. made strenuous efforts to equalise, but the Artillery prevented them from doing so, and the army men left the ground winners.

of the tie by one goal to nil. The match, although the play was not of the high order displayed by some of the other teams in the shield competition, was the most even yet played, and caused most excitement.

The sides lined up as follows:

25TH CO., R. A.	V. R. C.
Goalkeepers	
Brett	Rose
Backs	
Corveth	Wilkins
Tuohy	Ritchie
Halves	
Cameron	Darby
Craig	French
Howard	Mullis
Forwards	
Rose	Wilkinson
Sutton	Brown
Yule	Robinson
Henderson	Castle
Seth	Cooper

SETTLEMENT EXTENSION AT SHANGHAI.

We understand that though it has not been officially communicated to the Consuls yet, the Viceroy of Nanking has agreed to the proposals submitted to him by the foreign representatives, through Tsai Taotai, for the extension of the General Foreign Settlements. Some conditions are imposed, of which we have not learnt the particulars, but it is settled that the enlarged Settlement will extend from the Bubbling Well to the Point and take in a triangular piece of country enclosed between a line drawn from the Bubbling Well to near the Margaret Williamson Hospital. The French have not got any extension, owing, we understand, to the strong intimation that the British Government has given China that it will not allow her to extend the boundaries of any settlement near Shanghai in which any one Power claims to exercise exclusive jurisdiction. The work of Sir Claude Macdonald and Mr. Conger in Peking in connection with the extension of the Foreign Settlement has been greatly facilitated by the Japanese Minister's action informing the Chinese Government that Japan withdrew her claims to a separate Settlement to which, under the Shimonoseki Treaty, she was entitled. The thanks of the whole community are due to Mr. Byron Brennan, the British Consul-General, and to Mr. John Goodnow, U.S. Consul-General, for the energetic manner in which they have pushed forward this matter with the Taotai and also to Mr. Odagiri, the Japanese Consul-General, who has, we learn, found ways and means of impressing upon his friends, the Chinese officials at Nanking and Shanghai, the expediency of meeting the demands for the extension of the General Foreign Settlement in a generous and conciliatory spirit. It is said that the Viceroy wishes the foreign authorities to allow a year to lapse being taking over the added area and also that certain concessions be made to Chinese railways passing through the Settlements, which reservations and advantages we take it are not in any way unreasonable.—*China Gazette*.

THE FIRE ON THE "YAMAGUCHI MARU."

The N. Y. K. steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*, from Seattle, which put into Oginohama on 27th January with the cargo in her No. 2 hold on fire arrived in Yokohama harbour on the 6th February at noon. The *Yeiyo Maru* having on board the cargo discharged from the *Yamaguchi* arrived an hour later. The *Japan Gazette* says it appears that the fire had been going on for two days to the knowledge of the ship's officers before land was reached. The vessel might have been taken into Miyako, but, having in mind that no assistance of any value could be got from the shore there, Capt. Allen determined, and most wisely as it proved, to stand on and get into Oginohama. Even after he arrived at Oginohama he had to fight the flames for days, success only crowning his efforts on the forenoon of the fourth, by which time much damage was done. It had been necessary to beach the ship, but after the fire had been got under she was floated again after some trouble and reloaded part of her cargo. To accommo-

date consignees the Nippon Kaisha sent the *Yeijio Maru* to take a quantity of sound cargo with which, as already intimated, she duly arrived.

SZECHUEN REBELLION AND ATTACKS ON FOREIGNERS.

Chungking, 26th January.

M. Fleury, the French Missionary who has been held prisoner by the Rebel Chief Yu Mantz for the last 200 days has reached this city and was interviewed by the writer. He has had a trying experience, having been in daily expectation of death during the last seven months. He was led about by the Rebels and saw the houses of Roman Catholics burned and lives taken of those who would not renounce their faith. Finally when Yu Man-tee was surrounded and hard pressed by the Imperial troops, the Rebel Chief said he might go, and so he was delivered up and brought by a strong guard to this city. The Imperial troops are now burning and destroying the villages that gave food and shelter to the Rebels, but the chief is nowhere to be found, and it is alleged he is concealed in one of the coal pits. The country is still in a very disturbed state and travelling is dangerous.

The Rev. Mr. Parsons, of the C.I.M., while travelling from this city to Pao Ning-fu, was attacked yesterday morning by the local militia at Tu Toh, 80 li North of this and on the banks of the Kialing River. The boat in which he was travelling was boarded by those armed men who threatened to take his life with their spears and swords, and his servant, who sought to protect him, had the four fingers of his hand cut off, and is now himself missing. Two of the Tsai-ren, escorting Mr. Parsons, stood faithfully by him and tried to ward off the blows aimed at him, but finally Mr. Parsons leaped overboard and seized a sedan chair, which was floating in the water, and he was afterwards picked up by a Chinese gunboat. The enraged militia threatened to attack the gunboat and only desisted from the attempt on a threat to fire being made by the occupants of the gunboat. This boat then took Mr. Parsons back to Chungking, travelling all last night and arriving at this city this morning.

This afternoon a report reached the city that Captain Pottinger's Railway Survey party had been attacked near Kiang Chin Hsien, and the boat in which the two Indian Surveyors were travelling had been broken. but as this is only from a Chinese source we do not attach the same importance to it.

We have just had news of another Roman Catholic Mission house having been burned down by the scattered rebels at a place 25 miles West of this city.

We would suggest that H.M.S. Woodcock proceed West to police the Upper River without delay.

French Consul Haas has reached Chentu, where he is negotiating for a settlement of the enormous French claims.—*China Gazette* correspondent.

THE RAILWAY WAR AT PEKING.

Private advices from Peking assure us of the culmination of the quarrel between Hu Yü-fên and Chang I, or, as he is better known, Chang Yen-mao. Hu, as our readers know, has been the Director-in-Chief of the Imperial Chinese Railways, and as such has been subject to the endless intrigues, conspiracy, and jealousy inevitable to the head of a great spending department. Mr. Hu perpetuated the policy and system he found existing on his accession to office; he left matters of construction and maintenance to the Engineer-in-Chief, Mr. Claude Kinder, under whose able direction all the existing railways have been admirably and most economically built. Mr. Kinder's system has been simplicity itself, viz., all material to be put up to tender; *ceteris paribus* the lowest tender to be accepted, under financial guarantees that it can be fulfilled. This has answered excellently up to date as far as China is concerned: the material of the roads has been obtained at a minimum expense, the mileage cost comparing favourably with any railway in the world. On the only occasion this procedure was ever departed from the results were

fatal; bridges, girders, etc., obtained by consular and diplomatic pressure without tender, were not only more expensive but they failed to meet specifications as to strength, and they had to be replaced. Mr. Kinder's staff is largely British though for some years there has been a good percentage of Scandinavians in it; herein lies a supposed grievance. Chang Yen-mao was formerly house steward to the Seventh Prince, and in that capacity by his shrewdness he laid the foundation of a very considerable fortune. No one knows better the secret workings of the Palace than this astute and progressive Chinese; he invested much of his wealth in the Tongshan pits after they had passed through their experimental stage. Mr. Chang has for some years been the dominating influence in the development of the Chihli coal trade: under his régime steamers have been built and a large export business established. Although a man of no birth or education and on this account hated by the scholars, by the judicious employment of his great wealth he has steadily increased his influence, and in the commerce of the north he is now practically unassailable.

Mr. Chang has strong Continental backing and is understood to be inimical to British commercial interests. His appearance at Tongshan was all but coincident with drastic changes in the management of the pits: it is assumed that his predominance on the railways will soon be followed by long-reaching changes in the staff. Hence wars and rumours of wars. The Engineer-in-chief is thought to have vigorously protested against Mr. Chang's appointment coupled as it is with that of Hsü Taotai. There have been angry protests and re-protests from various Legations; and as usual those not actually concerned in the matter have not been unwilling to indulge in a little pin-pricking policy. In the present tense relations of all concerned, reticence is perhaps the better policy. The situation has all the elements of a very pretty quarrel. We shall probably have cause to refer to it in the near future. Our Peking advices have it that *pro tem.* the old Eastern Triple Alliance is in full force, and that the acuteness of the struggle has obscured greater politics and the more serious aspects of the general situation.—*N. C. Daily News.*

"INCITING AGAINST GERMANY."

Under the above heading *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd* publishes a leading article denying the statements which it says had been made in certain Hongkong and American papers as to German unfriendliness, if not hostility, to the American authorities in Manila. The following is a free translation made by the *N. C. Daily News* :—

The English, and more particularly the American Press, have again given utterance to some sharp remarks upon the behaviour of the German men-of-war at Manila last summer. Such deplorable irritation does not seem likely to promote the good relations which should exist between Germany on one side and Great Britain and the United States on the other by reason of their various common interests. Every day the stories of what was done at Manila grow, and as with time they may be the more difficult to refute it is very necessary that the incidents should be put in a proper light. When Vice-Admiral Diederichs arrived at Manila with several vessels he explained to Admiral Dewey that he had come only to look after the interests of German residents, and that the number of ships was an accidental occurrence brought about by the approaching relief and exchange of crews which could be more conveniently carried out in one place. The best relations prevailed between the Germans and Americans, and it was not until suspicion was excited by articles in the American newspapers against Germany that Admiral Dewey began to watch the movements of the German fleet.

We are at a loss to understand to whose interest it was to provoke differences between the United States and Germany. To our mind Germany observed as faithfully as any other nation a benevolent neutrality during the war between Spain and the United States. It is therefore remarkable that the Press of Hongkong should now plainly say that England should expect some

reward for her (England's) neutrality. This reward, it is asserted at Hongkong, should be a portion of the Philippines and of the Sulu archipelago. We cannot imagine what probability there is of Great Britain hoisting her flag in the islands, although it has to be noted that, in the meantime, Admiral Seymour has gone to the Philippines with the *Centurion* and the *Narcissus*. It would scarcely astonish those who have followed closely the events of the last few months at Manila if Great Britain and the United States established themselves there in friendly neighbourhood.

Some time after the surrender of Manila, when the American flag was hoisted, the British ships joined the Americans in firing a salute, an example which was not followed by any other nation. In regard to this it should be said that it is unprecedented to salute the flag of the conqueror at the same time as he is doing so himself. After the cession of Kiaochow and the signing of the treaty between Germany and China, the British cruiser *Barfleur* entered the Bay of Tsingtao and remained for a few days; but she did not fire a salute. Nobody thought it extraordinary, because a salute is only paid when foreign governments have been notified of the flag-hoisting, which at that time had not been done. This is a valuable precedent because General Merritt, during the negotiations at Paris, complained of the German Admiral's want of politeness in this respect. The Americans were not justified in expecting the Germans to salute the flag at Manila, because it would not have been usual, but, on the contrary, very strange.

The recent unfounded accusations against Germany, which have appeared in a section of the British Press, are not likely to assist those who are striving for a union between Germany, England, America, and Japan.

OPIMUM-SMOKING AND JAPANESE COURTS.

The recent opium-smoking case at Yokohama, where two Chinamen were accused of being in the possession of opium-smoking apparatus and sentenced to one year's imprisonment each, has naturally attracted a considerable amount of attention. As we have before pointed out, the sentences given in these cases are out of all proportion to the gravity of the offence. The act of opium-smoking is, rightly or wrongly, held in abhorrence by the Japanese, who themselves never seem to have been addicted to the vice. But the very fact that opium smoking has not laid any strong hold on the Japanese people should, we imagine, lead the authorities to look on the offence when committed by Chinese passing through the country more leniently than is the case. The offence is a self-regarding one; it affects hardly—if at all—any but the persons addicted to it, and cannot even be classed in the same category as drunkenness, which very frequently leads to interference with the rights of others. Not long ago at Osaka a man was given the extraordinary sentence of three years' imprisonment for this offence, though the two Chinese stokers of the *Hongkong Maru*, who were recently arrested at Kobe on a similar charge, escaped with a month's hard labour each. As we remarked on the last occasion, "even a month's imprisonment for smoking opium on a ship is somewhat heavy when it is considered that the men had only just arrived within Japanese jurisdiction and probably had no knowledge that they were breaking the law." The case at Yokohama presents features which make such a severe sentence all the more remarkable. It is stated that the men were not allowed to call any witnesses for the defence, although Mr. Mittler, an American missionary, who was on the *Riojun-maru* at the time of the arrest, could have given important evidence. In the *Japan Herald* of the 30th inst., Mr. Mittler gives a full account of the affair as far as came to his knowledge. From his account there seems to be some doubt as to whether one of the men was the person the police intended to arrest, but, at any rate, neither of the men arrested were found smoking, and the minor offence of carrying opium-smoking apparatus surely did not call for such a severe sentence. We may also point out that the men were evidently proceeding from America to China, and had no apparent inten-

tion of bringing the apparatus ashore. That the majority, if not all, of the persons committed for this offence should be Chinamen is only natural, the Chinese being the great opium-smoking race in the East; but we should be sorry to come to the conclusion that racial feeling had any weight in causing severer sentences to be passed than would otherwise be inflicted.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

THE LATE PRESIDENT FAURE.

A memorial service for the late M. Felix Faure, President of the French Republic, was held at the Roman Catholic Cathedral on 20th February and was attended by H.E. Sir Henry Blake, H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, H.E. Vice-Admiral Seymour, Rear-Admiral Holland, Vice-Admiral von Diederichs and the Commanders of the German men-of-war in harbour, Colonel the O'Gorman, and other naval and military officers in full uniform. The French Consul (M. Leon Gme. Le Roux) and the other Consular representatives were also present. Bishop Piazzoli was the celebrant. The church was draped in black.

A requiem mass was held in the French chapel on Shameen for the late M. Felix Faure, President of the French Republic, on Wednesday morning at nine o'clock and was attended by the French Consul, M. L. Flyell, and Vice Consul in full uniform. The Commissioner of Customs, a couple of Chinese officials sent by H.E. the Viceroy, other Consular representatives, and most of the French community were also present. A catafalque was placed in the nave of the chapel, and the seats on both sides were draped in black.

HONGKONG.

H.M.S. *Sandpiper* left Canton for Wuchow on Tuesday.

There were 14,061 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 206 were Europeans. H.M.S. *Grafton* with the dredger *St. Enoch* under convoy left at seven a.m. on the 23rd February for Weihaiwei.

The death rate last month was, for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 20.1, and for the Chinese community 14.9.

The promotion of Surgeon Lieut. F. O. Stedman, M.D., to be Surgeon Captain in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps is gazetted.

Wednesday being the anniversary of the birthday of George Washington the men-of-war in harbour were decorated and a salute was fired at noon.

Mr. F. W. Pulley, second engineer of the P. & O. steamer *Bombay*, died suddenly at Kobe on the 16th February. The cause of death was heart disease.

A lot of Crown land between Kennedy and Bowen Roads was sold on Wednesday by public auction. The lot contains 72,400 sq. ft., and was sold to Mr. A. Denison for \$8,713.

A lot of Crown land on Barker Road, the Peak, was sold on Monday by public auction. The lot comprises 24,300 square feet and realised \$2,491. The purchaser was Mr. W. Newton.

We understand that Mr. Colquhoun, who is now travelling through China to Burma, has been commissioned by Harpers to write another book on the Far East and to contribute articles to *Harper's Magazine*.

Two lots of Crown land at Mong Kok Tsui were sold on Tuesday by public auction. Each lot contained 6,075 square ft. One lot facing the main street sold for \$1,675, the other on a side street for \$1,025. The purchasers were Chinese.

The stamp revenue last month amounted to \$31,550, being a decrease of \$5,720 on the amount collected in the corresponding month last year. Most of the items show substantial increases, but there is a decrease of \$13,393 under the head of probate.

The appointments of Mr. Serscombe Smith to be Police Magistrate, and of Commander Hastings to be Acting Postmaster-General are gazetted. The Hon. A. M. Thomson continues in the acting appointment of Colonial Treasurer and Collector of Stamp Revenue.

The return of the number of cases of communicable disease notified as occurring last week

shows that there was one case of enteric fever, one case of scarlet fever (on H.M.S. *Powerful*), and three cases of smallpox, of which two were in the harbour and one at Yaumati.

The *Gazette* contains a notification giving the Governor's assent to various Bills passed by the Legislative Council. The Vehicles Ordinance is not amongst the number, from which it may be inferred that the absurd and unworkable provision with regard to the compulsory carrying of lights on private chairs is being reconsidered.

Considering the interest that is taken in gardening and the success which attends the efforts to grow home flowers locally it is singular that the Flower Show cannot be resuscitated. The gentleman who proposed the vote of thanks to the directors and staff of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on Saturday wore a buttonhole of snowdrops grown in his garden at Kowloon.

A blue jacket on H. M. S. *Undaunted* had a narrow escape on Wednesday. He was sent aloft to clear a flag which had become fouled and, missing his hold, fell from the foremast head into the fighting top, a distance of some sixty feet. He was carried down and immediately attended to by the ship's surgeon, when it was discovered that, beyond a severe shaking and a sprained ankle, he was none the worse for his lofty tumble.

The flags at Government House and at the various Consulates were flying at half-mast on 19th Feb. in consequence of the death of M. Felix Faure, President of the French Republic, news of which sad event was received on Friday. M. Faure was a self-made man, and a man of whom his country might well be proud. He filled the office of President with conspicuous success during a period of extreme difficulty. A memorial service will be held at the Roman Catholic Cathedral at half-past nine this morning.

We have received a printed copy of the minutes of meetings held in connection with the Chinese Club now in course of formation. The members on the 16th January numbered 147. The rules are to be modelled on those of the Hongkong Club. The following gentlemen constitute the Committee, the names being arranged alphabetically:—Messrs. Chau A. Fook, Chan Kai-ming, Chan Wiesen, Chow Kam-wing, Fung Wa-chun, Ho Fook, Ho Tung, Li Hong-mi, Li Pak, Lo Tat, Kuk King-fo, Mok Man-sheng, Ng Kwai-shang, Tse Tsan-tai, and Wong Hoi-pang.

The U.S.S. *Monterey* arrived from Manila on 17th Feb. She is a double barrette, low-freeboard monitor of 4,034 tons displacement and 5,214 indicated horse power. Her battery comprises 2 twelve-inch breech loading rifles, 2 ten-inch breech loading rifles, 6 six-pounders (Hotchkiss rapid fire), 4 one-pounders (Hotchkiss rapid fire), and 2 Gatlings. The vessel was built at the Union Iron Works, San Francisco, in 1892. Her complement is 15 officers and 187 men. The following are the officers:—Commander E. H. C. Loutze, commanding; Lieutenant E. M. Hughes, executive officer; Lieutenant F. E. Beatty, navigator; Lieutenant T. S. Rodgers, Lieutenant H. Kimmell, Lieutenant W. W. Buchanan, Lieutenant J. D. McDonald, Lieutenant C. F. Hughes, Surgeon I. W. Kite, Paymaster E. B. Rogers, Chief Engineer H. N. Stevenson, Naval cadet D. S. Mahony, Paymaster's Clerk J. B. Horton, Acting Gunner J. Donald, Acting Carpenter W. P. Harding.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In consequence of heavy losses, two well-known native sugar merchants carrying on business in Shanghai have put up their shutters.—*Mercury*.

Captain Messer of the British steamer *Chun Shan*, which arrived at Singapore from Amoy on the 14th February reported that the Chief Engineer died from brain fever on the 10th and was buried at sea.

A torpedo cruiser built at the Foochow Arsenal was launched on the 29th January, and named the *Kien Wei*, which means "Strength of Fokien." The dimensions of the cruiser are length 260 feet, breadth 27 feet, draught of water, maximum, 11 feet, displacement 875 tons. The horse-power will be about 7,000 and the ship is intended to go at least 25½ miles an hour, i.e., more than 23 knots.

There appears to have been a dearth of paper at Manila, for some of the issues of the *American* which reached us on 17th Feb. are printed partly on white and partly on heliotrope paper and others partly on heliotrope and partly on yellow paper.

A European agent of the Tonkin Spirit Farm, while making a raid in a village lately, was attacked by the populace and received such injuries that he died from them shortly afterwards. His native assistants were also ill-used. In the scuffle a native woman was killed by a revolver shot.

From the *N. C. Daily News* we learn that Mr. P. C. Dressing, Engineer-in-Chief of the Great Northern Telegraph Co., died at Copenhagen on the 12th inst. The deceased gentleman was born in 1851 and entered the service of the company in 1871. He first came to Shanghai in 1874 and his final visit was in 1883, when he superintended the laying of the cable between Vladivostok and Shanghai via Nagasaki. Of late years he has written many valuable papers on telegraphy, etc., notably on the scheme of communicating between the shore and lightships by telegraphy without wires. He was a most energetic and successful electrician and through his death the company has lost a most valuable servant.

At Shanghai on the 12th February a fire attended by a number of fatalities occurred in Fukien Road, when nine native houses were destroyed and several others damaged. The *Mercury* gives the following account of the fatalities:—A servant girl aged 15, belonging to the house where the fire originated, in her fright ran into No. 26 and hid herself in such a way that escape was impossible and when this house caught fire she was burned to death. The fire burned so fiercely that the occupier of No. 26 had only time to jump out of the window and was so seriously injured that he had to be removed to the Shantung Road Hospital. But the most regrettable incident was that which occurred to the occupiers of No. 29, where the wife, her three sisters, and a one year old baby met their death by suffocation. It was not known to any one that there was any person in the burning house, otherwise efforts would have surely been made to rescue them. Their charred remains were discovered hours afterwards. This does not exhaust the list of casualties, for during the progress of the fire European Constable No. 24, Lundquist, was standing beneath the door in the alleyway when the wall fell, burying him up to the chest. Luckily he succeeded in thrusting his head and shoulder into the doorway otherwise another fatality would have doubtless occurred. The Constable was promptly unearthed by the firemen and taken to the Central Station.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	12,230,663	15,099,727
Foochow	12,545,346	12,160,708
Amoy	688,318	685,631
Canton	3,061,715	5,887,884
	30,526,042	33,833,970

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	16,621,547	20,836,060
Amoy	12,034,647	14,522,772
Foochow	7,297,412	7,126,264
	34,953,606	42,485,096

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO OCEANIA

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	22,783,272	19,462,293

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	25,117,003	25,670,893
Kobe	13,658,343	15,602,238
	38,775,366	41,273,181

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 18th February.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular.)—The Home market, are strong, and in London Blue Elephants have risen to 12/9 and in Lyons Gold Kilins to 81.75. Raw Silk.—Business has been almost at a standstill owing to the Chinese New Year's holidays, but the market has opened exceedingly strong. Tls. 530 is reported to have been offered for Gold Kilins without takers, and the dealers are asking Tls. 535; reports differ as to last price paid. Yellow Silk.—About 150 piculs have been settled, mostly Mienchew, and the stock is now almost nil of all kinds. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 6th to 17th February, are: 400 bales White, 244 bales Yellow and 270 bales Id. Silk Re-reels and Filatures.—400 bales have changed hands in Steam and Hand Filatures at advanced prices. The Exports of Steam Filatures to date is, to England 124 bales, France 2,649 bales, and America 2,079 bales. Wild Silk.—Business has passed to extent of 600 bales at prices showing but little change. Waste Silk.—Stocks are small of all kinds and settlements are on a small scale. A sale is reported of 100 piculs Old Silk Wadding, 80 per cent. 20 per cent. at Tls. 6.35.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	53,853	41,725
Canton	26,606	19,842
Yokohama	17,057	16,513
	97,516	81,079

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales	bales
Shanghai	7,850	9,429
Canton	8,593	10,440
Yokohama	20,878	25,483
	37,323	44,352

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—There is little change to report is the position of this market since its reopening after the China New Year. Quotations for Formosa are \$52.50 to 53.00 Sales 300 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 24th Feb.—The market has again ruled firm and prices are still advancing. Quotations are:—

Shackloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.85 to 7.90	per pol.
do. " 2, White...	7.25 to 7.30	"
Shackloong, No. 1, Brown...	5.20 to 5.25	"
do. " 2, Brown...	5.05 to 5.10	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.80 to 7.85	"
do. " 1, White...	7.15 to 7.20	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.90 to 4.95	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.80 to 4.85	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.60 to 11.70	"
Shackloong "	10.00 to 10.05	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Bengal*, sailed on the 4th February. For Manchester:—1 case silk piece goods. For London:—160 bales raw silk, 50 cases bristles, 16 cases silk piece goods, 1 cases China ink, 1 case books, and 5 packages tea. For France:—552 bales raw silk, 12 cases silk piece goods, 3 cases feathers, and 29 packages hair. For Milan:—10 bales raw silk. Per P. & O. steamer *Malacca*, sailed on the 8th February. For Manchester:—1 case cigars from Manila, and 10 bales waste silk. For London:—7 cases cigars from Manila, 266 packages tea, 9 bales feathers, and 27 bales bamboo canes from Foochow, 2,055 rolls mats and matting, 425 bales waste silk, 92 bales canes, 98 bales and 8 cases feathers, 154 cases Chinaware, 5 cases camphorwood trunks, 46 cases blackwoodware, 4 cases copper gongs, 15 cases cigars, 19 cases effects, 3 cases curios, 6 cases and 150 cases preserves, 11 packages sundries, and 1,565 boxes tea.

Per steamer *Lao*, sailed on the 11th February. For France:—607 bales raw silk, 19 cases silk piece goods, 12 cases bristles, 8 cases sundries, and 420 rolls matting. For Milan:—5 bales raw silk. For London:—2 cases silk piece goods.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—Bengal.—At the commencement of the week a fair amount of business was put through, since when sales have been few and far between, closing quotations being New Patna \$81½, New Benares \$320, and Old Benares at \$325.

Malwa.—There has been little demand in the market and a small number of sales have been effected. The market closes steady at the following rates:—

New Malwa \$700 with all'ce from 0 to ¼ catty.
Old (2 yrs.) \$730 " " 0 to 1 " "
" (3/4 ") \$750 " " 0 to 1 " "
" (5/8 ") \$780 " " 0 to 1 " "
" (7/8 ") \$810 " " 0 to 1 ¼ "

Persian.—The market has not been very active during the past week. Best quality of Paper-tied Opium only seems to be in demand. Latest quotation are:—Only \$550 to \$650 and Paper-tied \$650 to \$750 according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna ... 2,054 chests
New and Old Benares ... 182 "
Malwa ... 550 "
Persian ... 1,250 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
Feb. 18	\$ 813½	—	\$ 827½	—	\$ 700	—
Feb. 19	\$ 813½	—	\$ 827½	—	\$ 700	—
Feb. 20	\$ 813½	—	\$ 827½	—	\$ 700	—
Feb. 21	\$ 813½	—	\$ 827½	—	\$ 700	—
Feb. 22	\$ 813½	—	\$ 827½	—	\$ 700	—
Feb. 23	\$ 813½	—	\$ 827½	—	\$ 700	—
Feb. 24	\$ 813½	—	\$ 816	—	\$ 700	—

RICE.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—Prices continue to advance. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Orina y ... \$2.75 to 2.80
" Round, good quality ... 2.95 to 3.00
" Long ... 3.35 to 3.40
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 1 ... 3.20 to 3.25
" Garden, " No. 1 ... 3.30 to 3.35
" White ... 3.80 to 3.85
" Fine Carg ... 4.00 to 4.05

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—1,150, bales No. 10 at \$67 to \$8.35, bales No. 12 at \$72 to \$80, 350 bales No. 16 at \$80 to \$85, 800 bales No. 20 at \$80 to \$89. Grey Shirtings.—300 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Cock at \$2.60, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$3.92½, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Munderine at \$3.75. White Shirtings.—250 pieces Pure No. 500 at \$6.1½, 350 pieces F. K. at \$5.92½, 300 pieces D. K. at \$4.92½, 500 pieces Fox and Duck at \$5.32½, 500 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.32½, 250 pieces Gold Joss at \$3.42½, 500 pieces Gold Joss at \$3.42½. T. Cloths.—750 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. G. Pheasant at \$4.95, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. G. Dragon at \$2.75, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. G. Pheasant at \$1.95. Drills.—300 pieces 14 lbs. Buffalo Chop at \$3.75, 200 pieces 14 lbs. Peacock Chop at \$3.90. Victoria Lawns.—1,000 pieces Red Lion at \$0.9. Black Lastings.—100 pieces J. M. at \$1.62. Bengal Cotton.—50 bales at \$16.75.

COTTON YARN. per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s. 62.00 to 62.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24 ... 101.00 to 108.00
" 22 to 24 ... 106.00 to 110.00
" 28 to 32 ... 114.00 to 120.00
" 38 to 42 ... 125.00 to 131.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS. per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs. 1.70 to 1.80
" 7lbs. 1.92 to 2.00
" 8½ lbs. 2.35 to 3.10
" 9 to 10 lbs. 3.25 to 4.05
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.30 to 2.50
" 58 to 60 " 2.70 to 3.35
" 64 to 66 " 3.50 to 4.35
" Fine 4.35 to 7.05
" Book-folds. 3.75 to 5.65
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ... 0.66 to 1.35
T. Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. 1.52 to 1.72
" 7lbs. (32 ") " 1.85 to 2.10
" 6lbs. (32 ") Mexs. 1.62 to 1.82
" 7lbs. (32 ") " 2.10 to 2.75
" 8 to 8½ oz. (36 in.) 2.35 to 3.20

Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs. 3.65 to 6.35

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs. 1.60 to 3.45
Brocades—Dyed ... 8.00 to —
" per yard
Damasks ... 0.12 to 0.16
Chintzes—Assorted ... 0.08 to —
Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.20 to —
" elveteens—18 in. 0.17½ to 0.18
" per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.25 to 1.25

WOOLLENS

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.60 to 1.50
" German ... 0.60 to 1.50
Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths. 1.00 to 2.25
" per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet ... 6.25 to 8.00
" Assorted ... 6.35 to 8.10
Camlets—Assorted ... 12.00 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted 10.00 to 20.00
Orleans—Plain ... 7.50 to 9.00
" per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 3.50 to 14.00

METALS

Iron—Nail Rod ... 3.95 to —
" Square, Flat Round Bar ... 4.00 to —
" Swedish Bar ... 3.80 to —
" Small Round Rod ... 3.80 to —
" Hoop ½ to 1½ in. 5.75 to —
" Wire 15/25 ... 9.00 to —
" Old Wire Rope ... 1.50 to 2.50
Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop ... 8.60 to —
" Australian ... 8.50 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/20 oz. 35.00 to —
" Vivian's, 14/20 oz. 34.50 to —
" Elliot's, 14/20 oz. 34.50 to —
Composition Nails ... 75.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs ... 35.00 to —
" Tiles ... 88.00 to —
Tin ... 6.05 to —
" per box.
Tin-Plates ... 5.90 to —
" per cwt. case
Steel ½ to 1 ... 5.60 to —

SUNDRIES

Quicksilver ... 148.00 to —
" per picul
Window Glass ... 5.10 to —
" per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil ... 2.32 to —

SHANGHAI, 18th February.—(From Messrs.

Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report.—Piece Goods.—In spite of the promise there was when we penned our last report of a brisk demand on the opening of the market after the holidays, we have very little to chronicle this week. Some of the dealers resumed business on the 14th instant, but it was not until a day or two later that the Native Banks issued their cheque books and trade became at all general. As usual a certain number of complimentary transactions went through, but the adverse attitude of Exchange immediately after the opening soon effected a retraining influence on holders, the Native not being sufficiently confident to raise their offers the requisite amount to counteract the decline. The Yuen Fong Auction on the 16th instant settled the question as regards English Cotton goods, the dealers evidently considering they have sufficient on hand to test the strength of the market in the consuming districts before committing themselves with any further purchases of importance. The decline in sterling rates caused quite a rush to secure cover for outstanding transactions, it being estimated that fully £ 0.100,000 worth of Bank paper has been settled since the market opened, almost entirely against Piece Goods. The demand is undoubtedly strong, especially for American makes, which may be quoted fully a mace to a mace and a half higher, but very few spot transactions have taken place from first hands; the dealers, however, have resold between two and three thousand bales to the Tientsin merchants at satisfactory prices, which has encouraged them to make some further purchases to arrive. The past year's business was fairly satisfactory to those engaged in the trade here, the net profit cleared being about Tls. 500,000 it is said. It is too early yet to get any reliable news from the country, but it is satisfactory to learn that recent advices point to an early resumption of business with Szechuen. The Yarn market is strong and advancing in sympathy with Cotton both at home and here, where it is now quoted Tls. 1.80 for best machine ginned.

METALS 20th February.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report).—The Chinese New Year holidays are just concluded but the majority of the native dealers are still engaged in concluding the festivities and have not yet resumed business on a general scale. As may have been anticipated from our last circular very little business has been done during the interval, but the native dealers are confident that their new year is full of promise. Since our last a few stocks have been cleared, and everything is firmer at home. The native market is at present very well stocked and those natives who have resumed business are content to wait to sell off what they have at a profit. Quotations for Nail Rods and Bar Iron are given at 13½s. 6d. respectively. Old Materials have been advancing, but the same applies to the business in this stock, the natives preferring to wait. No doubt in our next we shall be able to report a bright opening.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 24th February.—Business, which had scarcely been resumed after the recent Chinese New Year, has been again retarded by the Rangoon holidays, and there is but very little to report. Rates have ruled fairly steady, but with an inclination to weakness.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai, immediately after the shareholders' meeting held on the 14th, changed hands in small lots at 295 per cent. prem. cum. div., and later at 274 and 273 per cent. prem. ex div., market closing quiet at 271 per cent. prem. cash, and with some shares offering forward at a little more than equivalent rates. Nationals have receded to \$20 with sellers and without sales.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders are procurable at \$64 but without sales or buyers. Unions and Cantons continue quiet and unchanged without business. Straits have found buyers at \$7, and sales are reported at \$7½, but at time of closing sales have been effected at \$6½. The Northern Insurances remain unchanged and without any local business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have found buyers at \$32 and \$326 cum div. and Chinas at \$90, market closing quiet in both stocks.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao continue quiet and without much business, sellers at \$28 ruling the market. Indo-Chinas have changed hands at \$68, but there are further sellers at that rate, whilst offers to part at \$69 for March meet with no response. Douglasses remain quiet with sellers at \$58 and without business. China Manilas have changed hands and China Mutuels continue in demand at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars remain quiet with only small sales at \$176 and \$175, closing at the latter rate; on time a few lots have been negotiated at \$179 for March 31st. Luzons have been enquired for at \$53 and small sales have been effected at that rate.

MINING.—The market has ruled very dull with scarcely any business. Funjoms have been placed in small lots at \$5.75, Caledonians at \$6, Raubs at \$63, and Jelebus at \$7.75. Charbonnages are still enquired for in a small way at \$120 without leading to business.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have found small buyers at 325 and 326 per cent. prem., closing firm at 327 and with buyers for April and June at equivalents. Kowloon Wharves have eased up a little and are obtainable at \$82 ex dividend; no sales have been reported. Wanchais unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have found small buyers at \$78 and \$79. Hotels have changed hands at \$76 and \$75½, West Points at \$18½ and \$18, and Humphreys Estates at \$9 ex dividend.

COTTONS.—Hongkongs have been negotiated at \$85 and are still in request at that rate. The Northern Mills being without local business are quoted from the latest Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries, Green Islands, and Watsons remain unchanged and have changed hands at quotations. Fenwicks have improved to \$33 after sales at \$31, \$3½, and \$32, and China Providents have been placed at \$9.10 ex dividend for cash in fair lots and at slightly better rates forward.

Closing quotations are as follows—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	AT AS
Hongkong & Shanghai...	125	1463.75, ex div. sel.
China & Japan, pref.	25	271 p. c. prem.
Do. ordinary	24	11, sales
Do. deferred	21	5.55.
Bank of China		
B. Shares	28	20
Comm. Shares	21	20
Pei's Asbestos Co. A...	21	10, sales
Campbell, Moore & Co.	10	10, sales
China Prov. L. & M...	10	\$9.10, ex div. b.
China Sugar	100	\$175
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo...	115. 100	15. 61, buyers
International	115. 100	15. 82
Laou Kung Mow	115. 100	15. 83, sales
Soychee	115. 500	15. 400
Yahloong	115. 100	15. 55
Hongkong	1100	15. 5, sales & buyers
Fairy Farm	25	
Lenox & Co., Geo.	25	33, buyers
Green Island Cement	110	273
Do. New Issue	25	261
H. & C. Bakery	150	3
Hongkong & C. Gas	110	16
Hongkong Electric	110	11, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	100	130, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	150	754, buyers
Hongkong Ice	25	14
H. & K. Wharf & G...	150	\$83, ex div. sellers
Hongkong Refrigeration	150	75, buyers
H. & W. Dock	125	327, sales & buyers
Insurance—		
Canton	150	533, buyers
China Fire	20	5, sellers
China Traders	25	90
Hongkong Fire	50	64, sellers
North-China	50	325
Union	150	15, buyers
Yangtze	160	6, sales & sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv	50	9, sellers
Hongkong Estate	10	9, ex div.
Kowloon Land & B.	150	171, buyers
West Point Building	40	18
Luzon Sugar	100	53, sales & buyers
Mining—		
Charltonage	100	120, buyers
Ch. L. & Co. (Canton)	5	5, 80, sellers
Telegraph	5	5, 73
Queens Mines Ltd.	250	\$1.10, sellers
Queens Mines A...	25	17, 11
Queens Mines B...	13	15, 0, buyers
Punjom	15	5.75, buyers
Do. Reference	11	1.40
Railways	14	6.1
New Amoy Dock	100	16, buyers
Steamship Coys—		
China and Manila	50	99, sales & buyers
China Mutual Pref.	110	9, buyers
Do. Ordinary	110	25, 10, buyers
Do. Do.	25	3, buyers
Douglas Steamship	10	58, sellers
Do. Canton and M...	15	28, sellers
Do. China & N...	10	68, seller
Sun Ferry	75	\$1.25, sellers
Telerau Planting Co.	15	5, sellers
Do.	2	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	22	\$1.50, buyer
Do.	10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse	10	391
Wanchai	10	34, sales

SHANGHAI, 24th February. (From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—A fair amount of business has been done, with an improvement in some stocks. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation—Shares were placed to Hongkong at 295 per cent. premium with exchange 72, and locally for March at 295 per cent. and exchange 73. The market afterwards weakened and a local sale was made at 285 per cent. and shares were sold to Hongkong at 292 per cent. premium. A new demand for shares resulted in a local sale at 290 per cent. The National Bank of China has closed its local branch, and the Bank of China and Japan will act as its Agent here. Marine Insurance.—North-China shares changed hands at Tls. 10, and Straits Insurance shares were sold to Hongkong and locally at \$7. Fire Insurance.—No local business reported. Chinas are wanted. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$67, costing about Tls. 49 laid down here, and a sale was made for March delivery at Tls. 50. Cash shares are wanted at Tls. 49. China Mutual S. N. Preference shares were placed at Tls. 72. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares are wanted at Tls. 37. China Sugar Refining share.

were sold locally at \$165, and to Hongkong at \$175. Luzon Sugar Refining shares were purchased for cash and 31st March at \$54. Mining.—Raut shares are wanted at \$64. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. were sold at Tls. 166. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf shares were placed at Tls. 140 cash, and for March delivery at Tls. 141/42. Industrial.—In Cotton Mill shares business was done:—Ewos at Tls. 67 for 31st March, Internationals at Tls. 85, Tls. 85, and Tls. 85 for March, Laou Kung Mows at Tls. 83 cash and Tls. 85 for March, and Yeh Loongs at Tls. 55. Shanghai Rice Mill shares were sold at Tls. 25. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Tug Boat shares were placed at Tls. 210 and are wanted, and Shanghai Cargo Boat shares at Tls. 160. Miscellaneous.—Hall & Holtz shares are wanted at \$31.50, and Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Tls. 62.50. Loans.—Chinese Imperial E Loan Bonds were sold at Tls. 250, and Shanghai Municipal 6 per cent. Debentures of 1898 at Tls. 101.

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$487.50
Bank of China and Japan, defd.—210.0
Do. ordinary.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$20.00.

COTTON MILLS,
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 76.00.
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—85.00.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 82.00.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 83.00.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 400.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, & CO.,
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 185.00.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$89.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$27.50.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 166.00.
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 100.00.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 140.00.

INSURANCES.
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$150.00.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$89.00.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$65.00.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$320.00.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 180.00.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$7.00.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$230.
Yangtze Insurance Assn., Ltd.—\$120.

LANDS.
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$78.00.
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$9.56.
Shanghai Land Invest Co., (fully pd.)—Tls. 88.00.

MINING.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6.00.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.60.
Baub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$64.00.
Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 4.00.

SHIPPING.
China Mutual preference.—Tls. 72.00.
Do. ordinary, 25 paid.—Tls. 25.00.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 140.00.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$57.00.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$27.00.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 49.00.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 160.00.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 210.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00.

SUGAR.
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$174.50.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$54.00.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 37.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.
American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 62.50.
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$10.00.
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 40.00.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$31.50.
Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$57.50.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 37.50.
Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Tls. 400.00.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 197.00.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 62.50.
Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage, & Refrigeration Co., Ltd.—Tls. 26.00.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 24th February.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.46
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.49 1/2
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.99 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	47 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	48 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	145 1/2
Bank, on demand	146
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	145 1/2
Bank, on demand	146
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73
Private, 30 days' sight	74
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	5 1/2 % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	1 1/2 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Ruying Rate	10.13
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	54.00

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 20th February (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Since the issue of our last number on the 6th inst., the Native New Year Holidays have intervened, though it cannot be said that they have interfered, to any appreciable extent, with shipping homewards, the existing demand for tonnage being in keeping with the dull state of exports generally. It will be noticed that there has been no departure for London, with the exception of the mails, during the past fortnight, and while this is a very unusual occurrence, it is particularly so that not a single clearance for any direction appears under our heading "Departures." Coastwise.—It is expected that Tientsin steamers will resume business about the end of this month, though Newchwang will not be open to trade until about two weeks later. Coal rates from Japan are slightly firmer than our last quotation, settlements averaging \$1.45 during the period under review. For New York via Cape.—Nothing has as yet been done towards a charter being effected. The *Andromeda*, just arrived, is as far as is known locally, at present unemployed, and while there are ships to be obtained in Hongkong, preference will naturally be given to a vessel in Shanghai, provided that owners' ideas of business are not unreasonable. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Baltimore via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s. Above rates are subject to a deferred rebate, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net. 35s. per ton of 20 cwt. net for above three ports. New York, by sail, 10s. nominal. New York via Pacific, 1 gold cent per lb. tea, 6 cents per lb. silk, \$10 per ton strawbraid. New York via Suez, 27s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 27s. 6d. for tea, all net. Boston, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 40s. for tea, all net. Philadelphia, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 40s. for tea, all net. Coast rates.—Mojito to Shanghai \$1.45 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.45 per ton coal; Newchwang to Kobe closed; Newchwang to Swatow closed; Newchwang to Canton closed; Wuhu to Canton 13 cands.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH

FOR LONDON.—*Dardanus* (str.), *Glenesk* (str.), *Coromandel* (str.), *Hitachi Maru* (str.), *Glenagarry* (str.), *Manila* (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—*Sachsen* (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—*Hitachi Maru* (str.), *Tonkin* (str.), *Opack* (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Suevia* (str.), *Willenberg* (str.), *Silesia* (str.), *Nurnberg* (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—*Doric* (str.), *City of Rio de Janeiro* (str.), *Nippon Maru* (str.), *Queen Margaret*.
FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C. AND TACOMA.—*Tacoma* (str.).
FOR PORTLAND, O.—*Lennox* (str.).
FOR SAN DIEGO.—*Belgian King* (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—*Sikh* (str.), *Moyune* (str.), *Kenmore* (str.).
FOR THURSDAY ISLAND.—*Kasuga Maru* (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIA.—*Chinghu* (str.), *Australian* (str.).
FOR STRAITS AND BOMBAY.—*Bermuda* (str.).
FOR STRAITS AND CALCUTTA.—*Chelydra* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

February—

ARRIVALS.

17. Apenrade, German str., from Moji.
 18. Chinkiang, British str., from Canton.
 18. Nanyang, British str., from Penang.
 18. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 18. Konoura Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 18. Kweiyang, British str., from Java.
 18. Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 18. Wosang, British str., from Canton.
 18. Kaifong, British str., from Canton.
 19. Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
 19. Chiyo Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 19. Hailong, British str., from Swatow.
 19. Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 19. Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
 19. Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Y'hama.
 19. Sachem, Amr. bark, from New York.
 19. Ulysses, British str., from Liverpool.
 20. Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Swatow.
 20. Devawongse, British str., from Anghin.
 20. Kagan, British str., from Canton.
 20. Tacoma, Amr. str., from Tacoma.
 20. Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 20. Chusan, German str., from Sourabaya.
 20. Tetartos, German str., from Saigon.
 20. Suevia, German str., from Hamburg.
 20. Hainan, German str., from Canton.
 21. Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 21. Kaohidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 21. Chelydra, British str., from Calcutta.
 21. Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
 21. Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., from Saigon.
 21. Produce, Norwegian str., from Singapore.
 21. Taicheong, German str., from Saigon.
 21. Yamaguchi Maru, Jap. str., from Seattle.
 21. Amigo, German str., from Saigon.
 21. Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Saigon.
 21. Knivsborg, German str., from Manila.
 22. Chingtu, British str., from Kobe.
 22. Kwangse, British str., from Canton.
 22. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 22. Trocas, British str., from Singapore.
 22. Clio, British str., from Samarang.
 22. Kwang Ping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 22. Empress of Japan, British str., from Vancouver.
 22. Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
 22. Phra Chom Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.
 22. Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
 22. Taisang, British str., from Saigon.
 23. Oslo, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 23. Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 23. Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.
 23. Benlarig, British str., from Lododon.
 23. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 23. Loyal, German str., from Moji.
 23. Shini Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 23. Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 23. Bormida, Italian str., from Bombay.
 23. Hsi Ping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 23. Whampoa, British str., from Swatow.
 24. Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 24. Tonkin, French str., from Shanghai.
 24. Nippon Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.

DEPARTURES.

18. Rohilla, British str., for Yokohama.
 18. Monmouthshire, British str., for Portland.
 18. Ingraban, German str., for Saigon.
 18. Taichow, British str., for Saigon.
 18. Airlie, British str., for Shanghai.
 18. Chunsang, British str., for Hongay.
 18. Chowfa, British str., for Bangkok.
 18. Siam, British str., for Tamsui.
 18. Thales, British str., for Coast Ports.
 18. Lienshing, British str., for Swatow.
 18. Malaya, British str., for Port Arthur.
 19. Bellerophon, British str., for Amoy.
 18. Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 18. Chinkiang, British str., for Bangkok.
 18. Indrani, British str., for Singapore.
 19. Loosok, British str., for Bangkok.
 20. Kaifong, British str., for Shanghai.
 20. Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 20. Kagan, British str., for Shanghai.
 20. Liv, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
 20. Shantung, British str., for San Diego.
 21. Siam, British str., for Swatow.
 21. Tategami Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 21. Nanyang, British str., for Amoy.
 21. P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
 21. Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
 21. Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.

21. Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 21. Doyo Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 21. Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 21. Ettrickdale, British str., for S. Francisco.
 21. Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 21. Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
 21. Kagoshima Maru, Japanese str., for B'bay.
 21. Ulysses, British str., for Shanghai.
 21. Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
 21. Anping, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 21. Arcona, German str., for Singapore.
 22. Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
 22. Germania, German str., for Saigon.
 22. Yedo Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 22. Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 22. Hainan, German str., for Shanghai.
 22. Digma, Norwegian str., for Iloilo.
 22. Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 22. Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.
 22. Propontis, British str., for Moji.
 23. Kwangse, British str., for Takao.
 23. Grafton, British str., for Weihaiwei.
 24. Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 24. Suevia, German str., for Kiaochow.
 24. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 24. Trocas, British str., for Nagasaki.
 24. Kaohidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
 24. Kwang Ping, Chinese str., for Tientsin.
 24. Chiyo Maru, Jap. str., for Anping.
 24. Sachem, Amr. bark, for Shanghai.
 24. Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 24. Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., for Saigon.
 24. Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 24. Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 24. Chingtu, British str., for Sydney.
 24. Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Ballaarat*, for Marseilles, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Dowdall, Mr. and Miss Dowdall, Jr., and four children, Dr. D. D. Main and Capt. and Miss Grant; for Bombay, Mr. Willner; for Colombo, Mr. Eransky and Miss Grant; for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Burkell, Mr. F. T. Bennett, Mr. Tenfrani, Rev. and Mrs. Elevin, Capt. Pattison, Mr. W. A. Cruickshank, Mr. Biffar, Mrs. Carion, Lance Corpl. Trodd, Mr. F. C. Doy, A.B., Mr. and Dempster, A.B., Messrs. Grunbar, Bruns, T. A. K. Rhoden.

Per *Airlia*, from Sydney, &c. Messrs. S. Porter, W. Porter, Lieut. R. B. Johnson, Mr. A. Henry, Major Guise, Messrs. P. Greet, E. S. Smith, Major F. F. Mahon, Lieut. Pinto Basto, Lieut. Jose Marques, Lieut. Jose C. S. Veiga, Messrs. Jose Luiz dos S. Junior, Francisco F. Leitor, and Lieut. Jose Serroa.

Per *Parramatta*, for Hongkong from London, Mrs. Ford and 2 children, Messrs. Whitehead, G. Richardson, and Baker; from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Tutocher, Messrs. C. Harton, S. W. Cairns, and A. G. Wood; from Gibraltar, Revs. Silvas, Sirre, and Pereira. For Shanghai from London, Rev. Dr. Booth, Miss Saville, Mrs. Foster, Miss Carnie and child, Miss Duthoit, Mr. P. Pratt, Miss Marty, Capt. Hall, Messrs. M. Collins, Ted, and Dr. Peak; from Marseilles, Rev. and Mrs. Hodge, Miss Wilkinson, and Rev. A. Foster; from Brindisi, Mr. H. H. Tomkins; from Port Said, Mr. Johnson, Greving, For Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. H. Bremer. For Yokohama from London, Messrs. W. Yatman and Richardson; from Marseilles, Miss Serena, and Mrs. Dodds; from Port Said, Messrs. G. and W. Demenhieff. For Manila from London, Mr. Colin Campbell; from Marseilles, Mr. L. Somerville.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mr. Ortiz and wife, Mrs. Celia Marty and daughter, Mrs. Arthur Peterson, Mr. Sheridan and wife, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Whiting and child, Messrs. Tucker, Benjamin, Muller, Humphreys, Coligny Treherne, Lichanco, Bennett, Wallace, Miss V. Albert, Messrs. Mari Vast, Joseph Deleny, Haven, Coageshall, Bullk, Madeback, Hines, Hammer, Backmann, Buschman, Scritchfield, Chesen, Romig, Mayer, Mr. and Mrs. Lamm, Mr. and Mrs. Laminiski, Mrs. Gerentien, Messrs. Ygnat, Marcari, Calara Marcari, G. Logan, Emermis, Sterling, Miller, Focken, Toole and McGee.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, Messrs. A. E. Muller, A. Morton, J. G. Schurman, Major Sawyer, Messrs. L. W. Pepperman, Corbin, and Prof. W. C. Worcester; from Victoria, Miss A. Jones; from Yokohama, Messrs.

L. Hurder, D. L. Fleming, H. W. Coulter, R. D. Laird, and E. J. Moss; from Kobe, Messrs. W. H. Bruce, W. H. Woodward, Col. and Mrs. A. Duncan; from Shanghai, Misses K. Wilbur, M. Godfrey, Messrs. E. Shellin, T. S. Wilson, Miss H. Wilson, Messrs. Chu Yu Chie, Chiu Chao How, Hsu Sam I'o, M. Stimpfer, and Baron G. de Gunsberg.

DEPARTED.

Per *China*, for Amoy, Mr. S. Kato; for Shanghai, Messrs. H. N. Karangia, V. M. Britto, E. Wheeley, F. Jobsen, H. Diederickson, and Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Pereira, G. H. Scarbo, F. Mc Farland, H. A. Collins, C. Petcoll, F. Blodgett, P. Connors, Li Schin En, F. Mc Call, J. J. Tyrell and Mrs. Phillips; for Kobe, Messrs. M. M. Mehta, M. M. Gobhai, B. N. Karangia; for Yokohama, Messrs. F. C. Bhesania; H. B. Bhesania, Count & Countess Wedel, and Miss Ilse Wedel; for Honolulu, Messrs. J. C. White, U. H. Kentuel, Chow Quock Sun and Chow Chun; for San Francisco, Dr. and Mrs. J. Sanger, Messrs. F. Mallugaray, M. Lascaray, J. Cienaros, M. Mastineg, D. Argueta, H. Sanchez, F. Gaillen, P. Corral, E. Ortuosti, B. Garcia, A. Armendarez, Y. Musita, C. Falces, and Genl and Mrs. C. Peeves, Messrs. F. D. Chatterton, L. R. Bay, A. E. Pelood, C. A. Lester, C. Thomas, J. E. Taylor, A. E. Drake, M. S. Carroll, J. H. Stadler, J. M. Hutchinson, O. Clarke, T. O. M. Jones.

Per *Esmeralda* for Manila, Mr. M. A. J. Hughes, Dr. E. V. Armstrong, Messrs. W. Lawrie, T. Lizarrago, Hiron and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Putnam, Messrs. F. Brooks, W. S. Webb, Pooley, Clark, Sausto Ormaechia, Enger Steiger, E. H. Dunn, C. B. Lewis, Geo. Walker, R. F. Gray, P. Irvine, F. F. Parker, R. P. Reid.

Per *Ballaarat*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Messrs. Gullman, Clayton, Yong Tye, S. Yew Sai, and Yee Shun; for Colombo, Mr. Grunbar; for Bombay, Capt. Archer; for Ismailia, Rev. and Mrs. Barclay; for London, Lieut. C. H. H. Nugent, R.E., Lieut. A. Bannermann, R.E., Dr. Joy, Mr. Burrows, Lieut. C. K. Nicholl, R.N., Messrs. M. Hughes, Marshall, R.N., G. H. Baily, J. Paterson, R. Park, and R. K. Leigh. From Yokohama for London, Mr. F. W. Franks; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wilson. From Kobe for London, Mr. P. A. Nicolle, Misses Nicolle (2), and Mr. C. Tulloch. From Shanghai for Colombo, Mr. Eransky, and Miss Grant; for Bombay, Mr. Willner; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Dowdall, Miss and Mr. Dowdall, Jr., and 5 children, Dr. D. D. Main, Capt. Grant, R.N., and Miss Grant.

Per *Parramatta*, for Shanghai from Hongkong, Messrs. A. Zickarmann, F. Bonnet, Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood; from London, Rev. Dr. Booth, Miss L. Saville, Mrs. Foster, Miss Carnie and child, Miss Duthoit, Mr. F. P. Pratt, Miss Martyn, Capt. Hall, Messrs. M. Collins and Ted, Dr. E. Peak, Mrs. P. Mungall, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard, Miss G. Stewart; from Marseilles, Mr. H. Bremner, Rev. and Mrs. Hodge, Miss Wilkinson, Rev. A. Foster, Mr. J. F. Anderson, and Mrs. MacNaught; from Brindisi, Mr. H. H. Tomkins; from Port Said, Mr. J. Greiving; from Colombo, Mrs. Christenson, Colonel Wood, Messrs. Horncastle and Scott; from Penang, Mr. and Mrs. Dow; from Singapore, Messrs. Kropensky, T. Waylen, Mr. and Mrs. Poundall.

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